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THE
PRESENT STATE
OF THE
UNIVERSITIES

AND OF
The Five adjacent COUNTIES,
of *Cambridge, Huntington, Bedford,*
Buckingham and Oxford.

By Mr. SALMON, *Author of Modern History.*

NUMB. I. *for the Month of JULY.*

Being the First Number of the First Volume,
which treats of the County and University of
Oxford.

L O N D O N.

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PROPOSALS

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SUBSCRIPTION,

THE PRESENT STATE of the UNIVERSITIES and of the Five adjacent Counties of *Cambridge, Huntington, Bedford, Buckingham and Oxford* in Two Volumes, Octavo, the Price Ten Shillings Five to be paid at the Time of Subscribing, and the other on the Delivery of the Books, which are now in the Press, and will be published Monthly in Numbers, until the Whole is complete: And each Volume will comprehend Six Numbers, the Work will be finished within the Space of a Year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS are taken in by Mr. *Brotherton*, at the *Bible* in *Cornhill*; Mr. *Bathurst* against *St. Dunstan's Church* in *Fleet-street*; Mr. *Clements* at *Oxford*; Mr. *Bracke* at *York*, and by the AUTHOR at *Cambridge*.

REceived of
1743, Five Shillings, being the first
Payment for *The Present State of the
Universities and the Five adjacent Counties.*
per

INTRODUCTION.

AFTER many Years Search into the State of distant Nations, the Genius of the respective Inhabitants, the Constitution of their several Governments, their various Religions, Sects and Superstitions, their Methods of Education, and the Prejudices instill'd into their Youth in the Dawn of Life, which usually influence their future Conduct; I was led at length to consider what more nearly concerns us, the State of our native Country.

I have already given a general Description of England, and particularly of London the Metropolis, and its numerous Inhabitants of every Class, in two Volumes: I proceed in these to take a View of the two Universities, and treat of the Education of our Nobility and Gentry in those celebrated Seats of Learning, instituted to polish and improve their natural Talents, enlarge their Views, and inspire them with Expectations suitable to the Dignity of their Nature, to assist them in contemplating the amazing Works of the Creation, the divine Hand that form'd them, and to teach them that most instructive Lesson, the Knowledge of themselves, and the great Ends for which they were created.

A

With

INTRODUCTION.

With such glorious Views were these Academies instituted.----And from whence it proceeds, that the Bounty of their pious Founders, and the unwearied Application of the brightest and most learned of the Sons of Men to form our Youth to noble and generous Designs, and render them the Blessings and Ornaments of Society, have been so often defeated, deserves to be well consider'd, and will be one of the Subjects of this Essay; but I must beg Leave to pursue my usual Plan; and in the first Place to describe the Situation and State of the Counties in which the Universities stand (and some of those contiguous to them): To review their History, Constitution and Privileges, and observe what Encouragement and Protection these flourishing Academies have met with in every Age from the civil Magistrate, and the repeated Attempts of their Enemies to repeal and alter the Laws made in their Favour, or to distinguish away the Force of them.

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THE
PRESENT STATE
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The Five adjacent COUNTIES.

CHAP. I.

Contains a Description of the County of Oxford.

THE County of *Oxford* is bounded by *Warwickshire* and *Northamptonshire* on the North; by *Buckinghamshire* on the East; by Part of *Berkshire* on the South; and by another Part of *Berkshire* and *Gloucestershire* on the West; the Middle of the County lying in 51 Degrees 50 Minutes, North-Latitude; and extending in Length from *Caversham* in the South, to *Claydon* in the North, forty Miles and upwards; the greatest Breadth from East to West, measured in a direct Line, is twenty Miles, but the Form of the County something resembles that of *America*, the North and South Parts being join'd together in the middle by a narrow Isthmus, not above five Miles over.

Situation
and Ex-
tent.

Antient
Inhabi-
tants.

The antient *British* Inhabitants were the *Dobuni*, supposed to have obtained that Name from the low Situation of their Country, which can only be true of some Part of it, there being a great many Hills, of a considerable Height, interspersed throughout.

Name.

As to the Name of *Oxford*, *Oxenford* or *Oxneyford*, given to the City by the *Saxons*, and communicated afterwards to the County; some suppose it to be derived from a Ford near the Town, where Drovers of Oxen used to pass over; while others affect to call it *Ousney Ford*, from a Ford over the River *Ouse*, (now *Isis*) a Name common to many Rivers antiently; but as these are mere Conjectures, and it is of no great Importance, which of them is right: I proceed in the next Place to take a View of the Face of the Country.

The Face
of the
Country.

The County of *Oxford* affords an agreeable Variety of Hills and Valleys, unless on the North-east, which is a perfect Level for ten Miles, namely, from *Oxford* to *Bicester*, which in the Winter Season is too much subject to Floods. The Hills on the North and East give us very extensive Prospects. Towards the South-east, on the Confines of *Buckinghamshire*, we meet with large Woods, which are much wanted in the North: There is scarce a Tree or Hedge to be seen for several Miles in the North, particularly
between

between *Chipping Norton* and *Banbury*, unless near Gentlemens Seats or Parks, and even there we meet with but little Timber of any considerable Growth; great Part of this Country is heath, barren Ground, fitter for Sport than Husbandry, being all Rock within a Foot of the Surface, so that a Tree cannot take deep Root, and consequently must be stunted in its Growth: This is obvious for twenty Miles riding in the North of *Oxfordshire*, and yet near the Towns of *Chipping Norton* and *Banbury*, where they have Plenty of Compost, are fine, fruitful Corn Fields, and some good grazing Grounds.

The Noblemens and Gentlemens Seats are ^{Palaces} a great Ornament to this Part of the County, ^{and Seats.} being some of the finest in *England*.

And among these *Woodstock* or *Blenheim* ^{*Woodstock.*} Castle has generally the Preference given to it. This Palace is situated on an Eminence in *Woodstock* Park, about a Furlong South of the Place where the Old Palace stood; the principal Front stands to the Northward, and (with all the Courts and Out Offices) extends 850 Feet in Length. Through a magnificent Gate we enter the grand Court, being 320 Foot long, and 220 broad. On the Right whereof is another square Court, 160 Foot long, and 140 broad, formed by Stables, Coach-houses, and an elegant Greenhouse; and on the Left, opposite to this, is a Court of the like Dimensions, formed
by

by the Kitchens, Laundry, and another Greenhouse; at the upper End of the grand Court stands the Body of the Palace, which has a Communication with the Offices by a Colonnade on each Side.

In the Front of the House is a magnificent Portico, ascended by several Steps, from whence we pass into the great Hall, 50 Foot long, and 40 broad, and of the full Height of the House, there being no Rooms over it. The Cieling of this Room is finely painted, and on the right and left is an arch'd Corridore, by which it has a Communication with the rest of the Palace. Beyond the Hall is an elegant Salon or lesser Hall, fronting the Garden, 40 Foot long, and 35 broad, painted, as the Hall, with Battle and other historical Pieces, and particularly we see here the late Duke driving the Chariot of Victory, and stopt by the Hand of Peace.

On the left of the Salon is a spacious Anti-chamber, and within it a Drawing Room, beyond which is a large Bed-chamber, and beyond that a grand Cabinet, being the furthest Room on the left in the Front next the Garden. Within the Salon on the right Hand is an Anti-chamber of equal Dimensions with that opposite to it on the left, and beyond the Anti-chamber a Drawing Room, and within that a Bed-chamber,
which

which leads into the South-End of a long Gallery.

This Suit of Rooms open into one another, and are seen at one View constituting a Front next the Garden of 320 Feet in Length, exceeding beautiful and uniform.

In the East Front of the House is a grand Vestibulum, and within it on the left an Anti-chamber, beyond which is a Bed-chamber, adjoining to the grand Cabinet already mentioned. On the right of the Vestibulum is a Bed-chamber, and beyond that the Wardrobe Closets and Dressing Rooms.

The Gallery takes up the whole West Front of the House, being 180 Foot long on the Inside, and generally 20 Foot broad. The fine Statue of *Queen Anne*, placed here by the Dutchess Dowager of *Marlborough*, is the principal Ornament of it. On the opposite Side of this Gallery we see the Rapes of the Heathen Gods, by no Means proper Companions for that virtuous Monarch, and less fit for the Neighbourhood of a Christian Chapel, into which the Gallery looks, though, it is true, this Edifice has very little the Appearance of a Chapel, there being as yet neither Altar or Altar Piece in it. The late Duke's Tomb is the only Thing worth our Attention here, and the Room, which is exceeding small, seems to have been built principally to cover that admirable Tomb, on which are the Effigies of the

the Duke and Dutcheſs and their two Sons, exquisitely carv'd: Upon taking Notice that the Chapel had fewer Ornaments than any Room in the Houſe; it was answered, *There were not indeed thoſe gaudy Paintings and Carvings that were to be met with in the Chapels at Oxford, a plain Simplicity better became the Sacred Place.* There are ſeveral Stair-caſes in the Palace, but not one grand Stair-caſe; nor are the Rooms above ever ſhewn to Strangers; they are, however, very well worth ſeeing, as I have been informed by the People of *Woodſtock*, tho' far from being ſo magnificent as thoſe already deſcribed.

The Roof of the Palace is adorn'd with a Stone Balluſtrade, and a good Number of Statues; but there are ſeveral Towers, or as ſome call them Cupola's (tho' they reſemble neither) which have a very heavy Aſpect: Theſe are far from being an Ornament, and ſeem ſuch a uſeleſs Weight, that one would think they were intended to ſink the Fabrick beneath the Surface of the Earth. There certainly has been a great deal of Money buried here in Heaps of Stone, and other Materials, which add little to the Beauty or Commodiouſneſs of the Palace. Which occaſioned the following Epitaph on the deceased Architect *Vanburgh*.

*Lie heavy on him Earth, for he
Has laid many a heavy Load on thee.*

But

But no where does the Expence appear to be thrown away so much as at the Bridge in the Front of the House, which is said to have cost between 20 and 30,000 *l.* tho' all that I find extraordinary in it is an Arch of 100 Feet Diameter, some Machines which raise the Water to supply the Palace; and good Accommodations for Bathing: Near the Bridge is a fine Piece of Water of a very large Extent, which forming afterwards a little River, is always running under this Bridge, after which it is enlarged, and has the Appearance of a spacious Stream running between the Woods and Hills, and forming together a most agreeable Land-skip; but the Water is exceeding shallow, being collected from some little Springs, which rise in or near the Park.

The
Bridge.

The Gardens consist of 70 Acres of Ground, which are encompassed by a Stone Wall, and laid out in Form of an Hexagon, having a round Bastion at each Angle of 200 Feet Diameter: There is in this Garden a Wilderness of a vast Extent, with Visto's cut through it; the Trees whereof must have been very large when they were planted, for it already appears almost a full grown Wood.

The grand Gravel Walk, which runs from the House Southward, to the farther End of the Garden is two thousand two hundred Feet long, and there is another,
B which

which crosses it in the middle, one thousand eight hundred and fifty Feet in Length. Noble Terrasses, from whence we have an extensive View of the Country, run from Bastion to Bastion, which in a fortified Town would have been denominated the Curtains: There are also beautiful green Walks, planted with Ever-greens, Summer Houses, Alcoves, Fountains, and every Thing that can render the Place agreeable.

Fruit Trees I perceive are but little cultivated here: There are other Gardens East of this, where we find all manner of Wall Fruit and Plants proper to the Kitchen Garden. The Park, in which the Palace and Gardens lie, is six or seven Miles in Circumference, surrounded by a Stone Wall, and in it is a great Variety of Wood and Water, gentle rising Hills, and pleasant Vales; but notwithstanding there is abundance of Wood, from whence this Palace is supposed to have obtained its Name of *Woodstock*, I observed there was very little good Timber, and the grand Avenue, which is a Mile in Length in the Front of the House, and consists of double Rows of *Dutch Elms*, I am informed has been planted more than once, and yet they are now far from being thriving Trees, which proceeds, I presume from the Cause already mentioned, namely, that the Rock lies too near the Surface to suffer them to take deep
Root:

Root: This Park seems to be well replenish'd with Deer; there must be several thousand Head of these Animals, if I may form a Calculation from those I saw. The Variety of fine Lodges and magnificent Gates are farther Ornámements to this Park; In one of these Lodges the celebrated *Wilmot*, Earl of *Rocheſter*, reſided at the Time of his Death in the Reign of *Charles II.*

Ditchley, the Seat of the Right Honour-*Ditchley.* able the Earl of *Litchfield*, is ſituated about four Miles North-weſt of *Woodſtock*. This is a modern Fabrick, lofty, and elegantly built of hewn Stone, proudly ſituated on a Hill, which commands all the Country, having the City of *Oxford* and the Hills beyond it in full View: The Offices on the right and left, which form two beautiful Wings, have a Communication with the principal Building by circular Colonades. There is no Court in the Front of the Houſe, the Park comes up to the very Hall Door; has Plenty of Wood and Water, and conſiſts of little Hills and pleaſant Valleys, which render *Ditchley* a very deſirable Abode.

Cornbury, the Seat of the Right Honour-*Cornbury.* able *Henry Hyde*, Earl of *Clarendon* and *Rocheſter*, is ſituated about twelve Miles North Weſt of *Oxford*, two or three Miles Weſt
B 2
of

of *Ditchley*: It stands on an Eminence in the middle of a fine Park, having neither Courts or Gardens about it, unless a Terras on the South, from whence there is a fine View of the Country.

This Seat has been built upwards of an hundred Years; but has received some considerable Alterations since, by fashing the Windows, and other modern Improvements, which have rendered it so commodious, that I presume the noble Proprietor has no Thoughts of rebuilding it: However, if the Fabrick be not equal to the two Palaces last mentioned, the Paintings exceed every Thing that is to be met with in the County, for here are the Portraits of most of the noble Cavaliers mentioned in the late Earl of *Clarendon's* History of the civil Wars, with others of a more modern Date, particularly *Charles II.* King *James* and his Queens, *Queen Anne*, and several more of the Royal Family, done by the best Hands. And there is one admirable Piece, which must not be forgot, containing a Group of Figures, viz. the Duke of *Saxony*, *Luther*, *Calvin*, *Zuinglius*, and the rest of the reforming Fathers about him.

The Park is a delightful Place, well planted with Forest Trees, intermix'd with Groves of Ever-greens; but no large Timber, which proceeds from the Cause already mentioned, namely, the Rock lying within
a Foot

a Foot of the Surface here, as it does generally in the North Part of this County.

Heathrop, the Seat of the Right Honourable *George Talbot*, Earl of *Shrewsbury*, is ^{*Heathrop.*} situated six or seven Miles North of *Cornbury*, about two Miles from *Chipping Norton*: This is the most magnificent and elegant Nobleman's Palace I have seen, and has all the Advantage of Situation that can be wished; the Hill, on which it stands, commanding all the Country as far as the Eye can reach, and the Park is a perfect Carpet adorn'd with numerous Groves of Forest Trees, intermix'd with Ever-greens. *Blenheim* Castle indeed is larger, but I have been told the late Duke of *Marlborough* himself preferred *Heathrop* to *Woodstock*.

Stanton Harcourt, the Seat of the Right Honourable the Lord Viscount *Harcourt*, is ^{*Stanton Harcourt.*} situated six Miles West of *Oxford*: It is a modern Structure, not large nor lofty, but regularly built of Free-stone: It stands in a flat Country, and has not consequently a very extensive Prospect; however, in any other County but this, where there are so many Noblemens Seats of the first Rate, *Stanton Harcourt* would make a Figure.

In the Church of *Stanton Harcourt*, the late Lord Chancellor *Harcourt* erected an elegant Monument over the Remains of his Son,

Son, the Honourable *Simon Harcourt*, on which we find the following Epitaph, written by Mr. *Pope*.

*To this sad Shrine, whoe'er thou art draw near,
If ever Son, if ever Friend were dear;
Here lies the Youth, who ne'er his Friend denied,
Or gave his Father Grief, but when he died.
How vain is Reason! Eloquence how weak!
When Pope must tell, what Harcourt cannot speak.
Let then thy once lov'd Friend inscribe thy Stone,
And with a Father's Sorrow mix his own.*

Duke of
Argyle's
Seat.

The Seat of the most noble *John Campbel*, Duke of *Greenwich* and *Argyle*, is situated in the Village of *Adderbury*, two Miles South of *Banbury*: This House is lately built of hewn Free-stone, strong as a Castle, but has very little Regularity or Beauty to recommend it on the Outside, and I confess I did not see the Inside of it; but was inform'd, there were some magnificent Rooms. It stands upon an Eminence in a green Field, from whence there is an extensive View of the Country, and there is a pleasant Grove on the Declivity of the Hill, at the Bottom whereof there is a fine Piece of Water, and beyond a Paddock for Deer; but no Garden, unless a Kitchen Garden, that I could discern; and indeed Fruit and Flowers seem to be very much out of Fashion with the Quality: They endeavour, I perceive, to place their Houses

on

on an Eminence in the midst of a green Field, and if Groves and Water can be had, these are all the Ornaments they require, nor do they enclose themselves with Walls; on the contrary, if their Ancestors have built up any, they pull them down, and lay their Houses entirely open to publick View, and many of them have banish'd Ever-greens, as well as Fruits and Flowers from their Neighbourhood; this seems to be the present Taste.

In this same Village of *Adderbury* are three handsome Seats more, which belong to Gentlemen of Estates, who reside in them, among which is that of Sir *Edward Cob*, Baronet.

The last Nobleman's Seat I view'd was that of the Right Honourable the Lord *North's*, situated in *Wroxton*, two Miles West of *Banbury*: This is a good old House, built after the Taste of our Forefathers, secured on every Side by Hills or Groves from Tempests, and consequently wants the Prospects that more modern Seats enjoy; however, this is not without its Beauties, for here are most extensive Walks cut through the Groves, fine Slopes, and noble Pieces of Water, which render it a charming Retirement.

There

There are a Multitude of fine Seats in this County, besides those I have describ'd; but not having taken a particular View of them, I shall only mention the Places where the most considerable of them are situated, and the Names of the Proprietors.

And first at *Middleton Stony*, two or three Miles West of *Bicester*, there is a fine Seat belonging to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Jersey*.

2. At *Ricot*, about three Miles West of *Thame*, there is a very desirable Seat and Park belonging to the Right Honourable the Earl of *Abington*.

3. At *Thame* is another Seat and Park, called *Thame Park*, of which the Right Honourable the Lord *Wenham* is Proprietor.

4. At *Shiplake*, five Miles South of *Henley*, is the Seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of *Effingham*.

5. *Sherburn Castle* is the Seat of the Right Honourable the Earl of *Macclesfield*, moated round and built in the Form of a Castle, is held to be a Curiosity worth viewing.

6. At *Caversham*, a little to the North of *Reading*, is a most beautiful modern Seat of the Right Honourable the Lord *Cadogan*.

Nor are the Seats of the Gentry much inferior to those of the Nobility, of which I shall mention some of the most considerable.

1. The Seat of Sir Robert Jenkinson, at *Walcott*, in *Chalbury* Parish. All the Males of this Family are baptiz'd by the Name of *Robert*: There are no less than six Tombs of these Sir *Roberts*, now remaining in the Chancel of their Parish Church.

2. The Seat of *Rowland Lacy*, Esq. at *Pudlicot*, in the same Parish of *Chalbury*.

3. Sir *John Doyley*'s Seat, at *Chizlehampton*. He is lineally descended from *Robert Doyley*, who came in with the Conqueror, and being made Governor of the City, built the Castle of *Oxford*.

4. The Seat of Sir *Francis Curson*, Bart. at *Waterperry*.

5. The Seat of the *Osbaldiston* Family at *Chadlington*.

6. The Seat of Mr. ----- *Lenthall*, near *Burford*; the Chapel whereof was built by Mr. *Lenthall*, his Grandfather, Speaker to the House of Commons during the civil Wars, and is much taken Notice of for the fine Carvings and other Decorations, especially as they were directed by a Person that was supposed to have no great Veneration for such sacred Fabricks in those Days.

7. The Seat of Mr. ----- *Wickham*, at *Gazington*.

8. That of Sir *Charles Brown*, at *Kiddington*.

9. The Seat of Sir *Charles Crispe*, Bart. in the Parish of *Wotton*.

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10 Sir *Thomas Wheat*'s Seat, at *Glympton*.

11. That of Sir *Jonathan Cope*, Bart. at *Brewers Abbey*.

12. The Seat of Sir *James Harrington*, Bart. at *Merton*.

13. The Seat of ----- *Trotman*, Esq. at *Shelfwell*.

14. That of ----- *Trotman*, Esq. at *Bucknel*.

15. The Seat of the Lady *Ashburst*, at *Waterstock*.

16. Brigadier General *Tyrrel*'s Seat, at *Shotover*.

17. That of Sir *Edward Turner*, Bart. at *Amersden*.

18. The Seat of *William Shepherd*, Esq. at *Rollright*.

19. That of Capt. *Twisleton*, at *Broughton*, near *Banbury*, which was the Estate of the late Lord *Say and Seal* at the Commencement of the grand Rebellion.

20. That of Sir *John Thornicroft*, at *Milcomb*.

21. Dr. *Cummins*'s Seat, at *Barford*.

22. The Seat and Park of Mr. ---- *Keck*, at *Great Tew*.

23. Colonel *Pawlett*'s Seat, at *Ledwell*.

24. That of Sir *James Chamberlain*, Bart. at *Dunch Tew*.

25. That of Mr. ----- *Oldfield*, at *North Aston*.

26 The

26. The Seat of the late Sir *Francis Page*, one of the Justices of the *King's-Bench*, at *Middle Aston*.

27. The Seat of General *Dormer*, at *Rowfom*.

28. The Seat of Sir *James Dashwood*, of *Northbrook*, in the Parish of *Kirklington*, Bart. Knight of the Shire for the County of *Oxford*.

29. The Seat of *Francis Annesly*, Esq. late Lord *Anglesea*, at *Blechingdon*.

30. The Seat of *John Nurse*, Esq. at *Woodeaton*.

31. That of *Michael Blunt*, Esq. at *Maple Derham*, near *Reading*.

32. The Seat of *Norris Bertie*, Esq. at *Weston on the Green*.

33. The Seat of *Thomas Blackall*, Esq. at *Hafely*, near *Cudsdon*.

34. The Seat of the late Sir *James Chamberlain*, at *Wickham*, now Sir *James Dashwood's*.

35. The Seat of ----- *Farmer*, Esq. at *Tusmore*.

36. That of Sir *George Fettyplace*, at *Swinbrook*, near *Witney*.

37. The Seat of *Hugh Holbich*, Esq.

38. The Seat of *George Chamberlain*, Esq. at *Cropredry*.

39. The Seat of *Philip Powis*, Esq. Son of Sir *Thomas Powis*, one of the Judges of the *King's-Bench* in the Reign of King

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James II. at Hardwick, in the Parish of Whitechurch, near Henley.

40. The Seat of *Edward Rudge, Esq. at Whitfield, near Thame.*

41. The Seat of *Sir Thomas Read, at Sipton, under Whichwood.*

42. The Seat of *Temple Stanyan, Esq. one of the Clerks of the Council, and Ambassador to Turkey not long since, near Henley.*

43. The Seat of *Sir William Stapleton, Bart. deceased, late Knight of the Shire for the County.*

44. That of *Sir Edward Simeon, at Brightwell.*

45. The Seat of *John Scrope, Esq. of the Treasury, at Wormsly, in the Parish of Lewknor.*

46. That of *Sebastian Smith, Esq. at Cuddefden, remarkable only for being a thatched Cottage, the Master whereof has an Estate of 2000 *l.* per Annum.*

47. The Seat of *Sir Baldwin Lake, Bart. at Fritwell.*

48. The Seat of *Borlace Warren, Esq. at Stratton Audley, near Bicester.*

49. The Seat of the *Lady Wentworth, at Watereaton, in the Parish of Kidlington.*

50. The Seat of ----- *Whorwood, Esq. at Holton, near Cuddefden.*

Having described the Face of the Country, and mentioned most of the fine Seats, which

which adorn it, I proceed to take a View of the Rivers.

The chief whereof are the *Isis*, the *Wind-rush*, the *Evenlode*, the *Cherwell*, and the *Thame*; all which unite their Streams in this County, and form one noble River.

The *Isis* rises near *Kemble* in *Gloucestershire*, *Isis*. from whence it runs Eastward, passing by *Creeklade* in *Wiltshire*, and then inclining to the North-East, visits *Lechlade* on the Confines of this County, and having received the *Churn*, the *Colne* and the *Leck*, becomes navigable for large Boats from *Lechlade*: The *Isis* continues its Course almost North-East to *Eynsham*, being increas'd by the Rivers *Windrush* and *Evenlode*, and then turning about to the South, passes by the Nunnery of *Godstow*, to the City of *Oxford*; a little below which City, the *Cherwell* falls into the *Isis*; from *Oxford* the River runs almost South to *Dorchester*, dividing *Oxfordshire* from *Berkshire*, and the *Thame* having join'd the *Isis*, gives Name to the united Stream, which having visited *Wallingford* and *Reading*, runs Northward to *Henley*, dividing the Counties of *Buckingham* and *Berkshire*, and afterwards *Surrey* and *Middlesex*; it continues its Course Eastward to the City of *London*, from whence it runs still East, separating the County of *Kent* from that of *Essex*, and falls into the Sea a little below *Gravesend*.

The

The Right Rev. Editor of *Campden* observes, that this River, which *Campden*, Dr. *Plot* and others, call *Ifis*, bears the Name of *Thames* from its very Source; that it is known by no other Name but that of *Thames* to the Natives, and that all ancient Writings and Charters of Lands in *Gloucestershire*, which border upon the *Ifis*, call that River *Tems* or *Thames*; and from thence conclude that the united Streams above-mentioned, did not obtain the Name of *Thames* from the River of that Name, which rises in *Buckinghamshire* and joins them at *Dorchester*: But admitting the Fact to be true that the *Ifis* is called the *Thames* near its Source, this might happen from its being the largest Stream which composes that River, and near *London* bears the Name of *Thames*, the common People being seldom acquainted with the Names of any Rivers but those of the first Magnitude; as the *Ifis* therefore was the largest Stream, they gave this the Name of *Thames*, which they observ'd, the River carried towards its Mouth where the Navigation was most considerable: But which of these Conjectures are right is not very material; certain it is this fine River is of great Service to the County of *Oxford*, on the Confines of which, it flows for fifty or sixty Miles, being for the most part a deep smooth Water, and equally conducive to the Pleasure and Profit of the Inhabitants, as appears
by

by the great Number of Pleasure-Boats and Barges upon it, by the latter of which, they export vast Quantities of Corn and Malt, and whatever the West Country produces, and import whatever the City of *London* affords; nor does any River abound more in excellent Fish. Besides the Rivers of *Thames*, *Isis*, *Cherwell*, *Evenlode* and *Windrush*, already mentioned; Dr. *Plot* observes, there are no less than three-score and ten Rivers in this County, but the Doctor must surely comprehend every little Brook in the Number, for none of the rest deserve the Name of Rivers, unless it be in the Time of Floods; even the *Thame*, *Cherwell*, *Evenlode* and *Windrush*, are none of them navigable till they are united with the *Isis*.

There is another Observation of the Doctor's on their Rivers that I cannot subscribe to, *viz.* that they have all of them so quick a Stream, are so free from Stagnation, so clear and yet so well impregnated with Salts and Sulphur, that few vapid or stinking Exhalations ascend from them to corrupt the Air; and as for standing Pools and boggy Grounds, the Parents of Agues, Coughs and Catarrhs, he says, there are fewer here than in other Places.

The contrary whereof is certainly true in many Parts of *Oxfordshire*, particularly near *Oxford*, which City in a wet Season seems to stand in the middle of a Lake, the
Meadows

Meadows which surround it lying under Water, and from *Oxford* to *Bicester*, which is ten long Miles, I don't know a more watry Country in the Winter Season; *Ottmore* also, which lies about four or five Miles East of *Oxford*, is a Lake of two or three Miles extent every way all Winter, though in Summer it has the Appearance of a spacious Meadow: It must be admitted however, that notwithstanding there is a great deal of Meadow and low Ground near *Oxford*, subject to be flooded, it is none of it boggy, but yields plenty of Grass and Hay in Summer.

The County of *Oxford* is divided into fourteen Hundreds, *Viz.*

1 *Wotton*, 2 *Banbury*, 3 *Bloxham*, 4 *Chadlington*, 5 *Ploughly*, 6 *Bullington*, 7 *Bampton*, 8 *Tame*, 9 *Lewknor*, 10 *Pirton*, 11 *Dorchester*, 12 *Ewelme*, 13 *Langtree*, and 14 *Binfield* or *Henley*.

The Hundred of *Wotton* is bounded by that of *Banbury*, on the North by that of *Ploughly*, on the East by *Berkshire*, from which it is divided by the River *Isis* on the South, and by the Hundreds of *Chadlington* and *Bampton* on the West, the Capital whereof and of the County is the City of *Oxford*.

CHAP. II.

Contains a Description of the City of Oxford.

OXFORD is situated on a small Emi-^{Oxford}
 nence, almost encompass'd with Mea-^{City.}
 dows, except on the East; these Mea-
 dows are about a Mile over, beyond which
 are Hills of a moderate Heighth bounding
 the Prospect from the Town.

Towards the East, there is a continued
 Ascent of two Miles to the Top of a high
 Hill, which goes by the Name of *Shotover-
 Heath*; from whence there is a fine Prospect
 of the City and adjacent Country, as there
 is also from the Hills on the West.

The whole Town, including the Suburbs,
 is a Mile in length from East to West, and
 almost as much in breadth from North to
 South, being three Miles in Circumference,
 but it is of an irregular Figure, and many
 void Spaces are comprehended within these
 Limits, besides the numerous Courts and
 Gardens belonging to the respective Colleges.

The City, properly so called, formerly
 surrounded by a Wall, is of an oblong Form,
 and not much more than two Miles in Cir-
 cumference; *Magdalen College* with the East-
 ern as well as the Northern Suburbs,
 which contain the Parishes of *Holywell*,
Magdalen, *St. Clements* and *St. Giles's*, with
 D *Baliol*,

Baliol, Trinity, St. John's and Wadham Colleges, are without the old Walls, of which there are but very small Remains at present, but the Fortifications and Outworks rais'd by the Royalists in the Time of the late Civil Wars, included all the Suburbs. Those Fortifications however could not cover the City from the Enemies Shot, and it is not easy to conceive how *Oxford* should have sustain'd a long Siege, unless the Garrison within was almost as numerous as the Army which invested it.

The Town lies so much expos'd to the Shot of an Enemy, from the Hills on the East, that it might have been beat down in twenty-four Hours if the Assailants had attempted it, and there is no reason to be given why they did not when *Fairfax* lay before it, but the Respect the Enemy's Generals had for these Seats of Learning; possibly their Chiefs imagined that their preserving the Colleges and other publick Buildings, would gain them some Reputation among the People, and induce the University-Men themselves to espouse their Cause, or at least to submit quietly to their Usurpation, as it appears some of them did; whereas the destroying these Buildings, could only render them odious to the Nation.

But to return to the present Town, the Gates on the East and North are still left standing, though the Walls are almost entirely

tirely demolish'd, as well as the Fortifications erected by the Royalists in the Time of the Civil Wars; the Castle also, which stands at the West End of the Town, no longer deserves that Name, the Ruins whereof now serve for the County Goal, as the North Gate (which has obtain'd the Name of *Bocardo*) does for the Town Goal, but why this Gate or Prison is called *Bocardo*, I could never learn.

The Principal Street of the City runs from East to West, almost the length of the Town, but under different Names; the East End goes by the Name of *High-Street*, the middle of it is call'd the *Old Butcher-Row*, and the West End *Castle-Street*: The East End forms a very spacious Street, clean and well pav'd, and illuminated with Lamps in the Winter; it is adorn'd with the Fronts of three fine Colleges, *viz. University, Queens and All-Souls*, the University Church of *St. Mary's*, and the new beautiful Church of *All-Saints*; but the private Houses are meanly built and very much diminish the Beauty of it. I do not remember six Houses in this fine Street, built either with brick or Stone; the Houses which stand East of that elegant Edifice of *Queen's College*, would disgrace an ordinary Market-Town. It is observable that this celebrated Street is very crooked, which some indeed admire as a Beauty, having a mighty Gust for Serpentine Streets, as well

as Serpentine Rivers. Another thing which takes off much from its beauty is the *Butcher-Market*, held here every *Wednesday* and *Saturday*, when the Stalls extend half the length of this fine Street, and indeed there are no other Market-Places in *Oxford* than the great Streets: As the Butchers take up this, the Farmers incumber the other principal Streets with their Waggon and Corn, and Fish and Poultry are sold in both. Another great Nuisance is the Dirt which People bring out of their Houses, and lay in the middle of the Street in heaps every Morning.

The second Street in *Oxford*, is that which runs from South to North, crossing the Street already describ'd about the Middle, from whence that part of the Town has obtain'd the Name of *Quater Vois* or the four Ways, corruptly call'd *Carfax*; as the Corporation Church, which stands near the four Ways likewise is, though it is something difficult to conceive, how the Word *Carfax* was form'd out of those two *French* Words, *Quater Vois*.

The South End of this second Street is called *Fish-Street*, and the other End of it the *Corn-Market*; from whence we pass through *Bocardo*, or the North-Gate, into *Maudlin* Parish and *St. Giles's*, which form a very spacious Street, and in some Respects preferable to either of the former: On the East Side of *Fish-Street*, stands that noble College

College of *Christ-Church*, the magnificent Front whereof is extended an hundred and twenty Yards. Some of the private Buildings here, and in that part of this Street called the *Corn-Market*, are preferable to those of the *High-Street*.

But the pleasantest part of the Town, especially for those that love Retirement, is *St. Giles's*, which lies without the North-Gate; this has all the Advantages of Town and Country, it is broader than the *High-Street*, well planted with Elms on each Side and better built, several of the Houses being of white hewn Stone; and in this Street also stand the Colleges of *Baliol* and *St. John's*. A Stranger would be apt to expect indeed, that this City was generally built with Stone, their Quarries lying but two Miles distant from it, *viz.* at *Hedington* or *Shotover Heath*; but still it seems it is cheaper building with Brick than Stone at *Oxford*; there are two or three private Houses now building of Brick in the *High-Street*, by *London* Undertakers, and I am inform'd they bring all their Bricks up the *Thames* from *London*, which is above an hundred Miles by Water. As to the generality of the Inhabitants, they don't think it worth their while to build either with Brick or Stone on College Leases, and this is the true Reason the private Buildings are for the most part so mean in this, as well as in the other University of *Cambridge*. The Lessees patch
up

up their Clay Tenements as long as they can, and sometimes chuse to let their Leases run out, rather than be at the Charges of renewing them and repairing their Houses.

I should have taken Notice, that the City of *Oxford* is almost encompass'd with Rivers, or rather with several Branches of the Rivers *Isis* and *Cherwell*, infomuch that *Oxford* is not to be approach'd except on the North, but by Bridges, which lie over these Streams; and this has made some People imagine that the City is very strongly situated, not reflecting that it is commanded by the rising Grounds on the East, and that it is of too great an Extent to be regularly fortified in every Part.

It is needless, after this Account of the Situation of *Oxford*, to observe that it is well supply'd with Water, which they do not trouble themselves to fetch from the Rivers that surround it, but every House almost has a Pipe laid in, which supplies them with *Thames* Water as it is usually call'd here; for the common People both here and in the Country above *Oxford*, give the River *Isis* the Name of *Thames*, and scarce know it by any other Name, as has been intimated already; though the *Thames* does not fall into the *Isis* till it has pass'd *Oxford* many Miles, and I find one Street of the City goes by the Name of *Thames-Street*, namely that which runs down to the *High-Bridge*.

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The chief Bridges are, First, *East-Bridge*, which lies over the River *Cherwell*, being the grand Avenue from *London*: The Second lies over the *Ifis*, on the South Side of the Town, being the Avenue from *Abington* and *Berkshire*; and the Third is the *High-Bridge* over the same River *Ifis*, in the West-part of the Town; besides which, there are some lesser Bridges, with Causeys running from them near a Mile in length, cross the Meadows which encompass the Town; for their Meadows lying under Water part of the Winter, *Oxford* cannot be approach'd on the West but by such Causeys, which leads me to enquire into the Healthfulness of the Situation, so mightily cryed up by Dr. *Plot*, (who has written the natural History of *Oxfordshire*) as well as by the present Inhabitants and Scholars who reside here.

From what I have observ'd, (and I have spent some time at *Oxford* in almost every Season of the Year,) the City is generally Healthful; but towards the latter End of the Year, and in wet Winters, the poor People who can neither afford good Liquor or Firing, are pretty much subject to Agues; nor is it to be much wonder'd at, since *Oxford*, like *Venice*, in a wet Season, appears surrounded with Water, if we take a View of it from *Shotover-Hill*; even Doctor *Plot*, who has written a Panegyrick on *Oxford*, acknowledges the Water frequently hangs too long
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in the Meadows, and this must be admitted by every one that has seen it in a wet Season; but then an ingenious Gentleman observ'd to me, that these Waters which cover their Meadows, have a quick Current, and that running Waters are not unwholsome; adding, that wherever there is a Current of Water, there is a Current of Air, and that it is only the Stagnation of Waters which render them Unhealthful: To which it is answered, that though it be admitted there is a Current in the Meadows, when the Floods are at the Heighth, yet when the Water grows low there must be a Stagnation, from whence Vapours will arise that are not very Salutary: It is observable also, that these Meadows lie chiefly on the South and West-part of the City, from which Points the Winds usually blow, and consequently the Air of the Town must be very moist when the Meadows are cover'd with Water, which may not however have such ill Effects on that part of the Inhabitants who eat and drink well, as on the poorer Sort, who cannot afford good Liquor or Firing enough to keep them warm, in a Place where Fuel is so excessive dear; Coals being usually sold for Fifteen-pence the Bushel, and sometimes a great deal more, and Wood is still dearer. I proceed in the next Place, to give a Description of the Buildings in this City.

There

There are in the City of Oxford and Liberties, thirteen Parishes, viz. 1. *St. Mary's*, 2. *All Saints*, 3. *Carfax*, or *Quater vois*, 4. *St. Aldate's* or *St. Old's*. 5. *St. Ebb's*, 6. *St. Peter's* in the *Bayly*, 7. *St. Michael's*, 8. *St. Mary Magdalen*, 9. *St. Peter's* in the East, 10. *Hollywell*, 11. *St. Giles's*, 12. *St. Thomas's*, and 13. *St. John's*; as to *St. Clement's* which lies without the *East-Gate*, this is not under the Government of the City, and has no Dependance on it; every one is at liberty to set up what Trade he pleases in that part of the Town.

Of the Churches, which give Names to the several Parishes already enumerated, there are but four which make a tolerable Figure, viz. *St. Mary's*, *All Saints*, *St. Peter's* in the *Bayly*, and *St. John's*. *St. Mary's* stands on the North-side of the *High Street*, and is the Church to which the University resort on *Sundays* and *Holydays* to hear Sermons, preach'd by the Appointment of the Vice-Chancellor; and the Parishioners at different Times of the Day attend divine Service here.

There is nothing extraordinary in the Fa-
brick of *St. Mary's*, unless a beautiful Spire
Steeple, and a handsome Chancel, floor'd
with black and white Marble: As to the rest,
there are Churches in several Market Towns
to be preferr'd before it.

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There being three Isles in the Church, the Vice-Chancellor sits at the West-end of the Middle Isle, on a kind of Throne elevated some few Steps, on each side whereof is a Pew for the Wives and Daughters of the Heads of Colleges and Female Strangers of Distinction: Below the Vice-chancellor sit the Heads of Colleges, Noblemen and Doctors; and below them in the Pit sit the Masters of Art on Benches, all of them with their Faces to the East; and cross the Middle of the Pit is a Rail, beyond which sit the Inhabitants of the Parish and other Townsmen; on each side of the Pit are Pews for the Wives and Daughters of the Inhabitants: The Pulpit stands towards the lower end of the Pit, in that part assign'd to the Townsmen; the Preacher standing with his Face to the West, opposite to the Vice-chancellor and the University: There is a Gallery also at the West-end for the Batchelors and Under-graduates: These Galleries however make but an indifferent Appearance, and do not seem to be near large enough to contain all the Students.

There are in the Steeple of this Church six heavy Bells, tuneable enough, which are rung on all State Holydays.

The times of the Day the University go to this Church, are at Ten in the Morning and Two in the Afternoon on *Sundays* and *Holidays*; the Sermon usually lasting about half

half an Hour, but when I happen'd to be at *Oxford* in 1742, Mr. *Wesley* the Methodist, of *Christ-Church*, entertain'd his Audience two Hours, and having insulted and abus'd all Degrees, from the highest to the lowest, was in a manner hiss'd out of the Pulpit by the Lads.

The Church of *All Saints* stands in the same *High Street*, a little to the Westward of *St. Mary's*; this is a very beautiful Fabrick, of white hewn Stone, but so lofty that the Voice is lost in it; the lowder the Preacher speaks the less he is understood; but it is thought the building of a Gallery at the West-end will cure this Fault. This Church is 72 Feet long, 42 broad, and 50 Foot high, and not a single Pillar in it; it has a beautiful fretwork Cieling, a fine Altar-piece, Pulpit, and Marble Font.

The outside of the Roof is encompass'd with a Stone Ballustrade, and it has an admirable Spire Steeple, adorn'd with Pilasters and other proper Decorations.

The Church of *St. Peter's* in the *Bayly*, which stands still further Westward in that part of this Street, called the *Old Butchery*, is built in like manner, of white hewn Stone and of a square Form, but neither so lofty or so beautiful as *All Saints*, but probably will be a much better Church to preach in when it is finish'd.

The last Church which deserves our Attention is that of St. *John's*, which serves as a Chapel to *Merton College*; this is a handsome Old Gothick Building, said to be the best proportioned Church in Town, and better adorn'd on the Inside than most of them; it has a very large Square Tower for its Steeple, but not lofty.

As to the other publick Buildings belonging to the Town, I did not observe any that deserv'd a Description: The Town-Hall where the Mayor and Aldermen meet and the Sessions are kept, is a very mean Building; and the Conduit which stands in the middle of the Town, at *Quater-vois*, or the Meeting of the principal Streets, has nothing extraordinary in it's Structure. Their Bridges are built with Stone, and those on the East and South of a considerable Extent, but they have no great share of Beauty. There is little left of the Castle but a high Mount which commands the Town, and a small part of the Building, now converted into a Prison, and near it is a pleasant Garden, which goes by the Name of *Paradise*, in which are Camomile and Grass Walks, planted with Ever-Greens and almost all manner of Fruit Trees and Flowers.

Bodleian
Library

The publick Buildings belonging to the University are the next Subject of Enquiry, among which I begin with the University Library, usually called the *Bodleian*, from Sir

Thomas

Thomas Bodley its principal Founder, this is a large lofty Structure, built of Stone, in the Form of a Roman H, and is said to contain the greatest number of Books of any Library in Europe, except that of the *Vatican*, and that of *Paris*, a Catalogue whereof is printed, being itself a Folio of no mean Size; but it is observed that there are a great many Duplicates among these, which make the Library appear larger than it really is: Nor is the disposal and ordering of their Books much approv'd, for the Books of the principal Benefactors having a particular Place assign'd to each of them, a Student must run from one end of the Room to the other to consult Authors which treat of the same Subject; for the Books being chain'd down, there is no bringing them together, even in the Library, much less can the Student consult them in his Study: And as there is but a small part of the Day (*viz.*) three Hours in the Morning and three in the Afternoon allowed Gentlemen to resort to the Library, it gives them an inconcievable Trouble to collect any thing from hence, especially during the short Days in Winter, when he must be content to sit without a Fire in a large cold Room, if he would satisfy his Enquiries.

But to give some account of the Foundation of the publick Library from *Cambden*: The Ground on which the Divinity School was built was purchas'd by the University
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in the Year 1427, and upon several Contributions that Structure was soon after begun, but intermitted, till, by the Piety of *Humphrey Duke of Glocester*, it was carried on and compleated: The same Duke, over the Divinity School, erected this Library, which he furnish'd with 129 choice Volumes he procur'd from *Italy*, besides which he gave 126 Volumes more in the Year 1440, and in the Year 1443, a much greater Number, besides considerable Additions at his Death three Years after: But these Books have been long since imbezzled and converted to private Uses.

In the Year 1597, Sir *Thomas Bodley*, Knight, formerly a Member of this University, repair'd the Old Library of *Humphrey Duke of Glocester*, and fitted it for the Reception of Books, *Anno Dom.* 1599. An additional Eastern Gallery was begun by him in the Year 1610, and another Gallery projected by him was erected afterwards.

Sir *Thomas Bodley* furnish'd the Library with the best Books he could procure from all Parts of the World, in memory of which Benefaction the Earl of *Dorset* caus'd the Statue of Sir *Thomas* to be erected in the Library.

Sir *Thomas Bodley* died *Jan.* 28, 1612. leaving a considerable Estate in Land and Money for Salaries to the Officers and keeping the Library in repair: He also left Statutes for

for the Government of it, which were confirm'd in Convocation, and Sir *Thomas* was declared by the University to be the Founder.

The Earl of *Pembroke* afterwards, by the Perswasion of Archbishop *Laud*, gave almost all the Collection of *Greek* Manuscripts, which *Francis Barroccio* the *Venetian* had gathered together with great Pains and Costs, thought to be the most valuable Collection that ever came into *England* at once. The Earl reserv'd twenty-two of them for his own Use which *Cromwell* bought and gave afterwards, and Sir *Thomas Roe* added another choice Parcel of *Greek* Manuscripts.

Sir *Kenelm Digby* also presented a great Parcel of Manuscripts, new bound, which he had gotton in his Travels: And Archbishop *Laud* having sent into the *East* to buy Oriental Manuscripts, and to the Marts in *Germany*, procur'd thirteen Hundred large Volumes of Books written in above twenty Languages. By this Bishop's Instigation the University added another Building to Duke *Humphrey's* Library, which brought it into the Shape of a Roman H, where, besides the Books before mention'd, the most excellent Study of the Learned *John Selden* of the *Inner Temple, London, Esq;* is plac'd. Many other Benefactors have much encreas'd this Library, General *Fairfax*, afterwards Lord *Fairfax*, Dr. *Marshal*, Rector of *Lincoln College*, Dr. *Barlow* late Lord Bishop of *Lincoln*,

Lincoln, &c. which, with certain Libraries purchas'd by the University, of Dr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Graves*, and Dr. *Pocock*, have made it the largest University Library in *Europe*.

The
Schools.

The next publick Buildings I shall describe are the Schools, which, with one side of the Library form a small Square of thirty Yards over either way; but as the Schools consist of two lofty Stories above the Ground-Floor, and the Towers at each Corner of three Stories, the Extent of the Area is by no means proportionable to the Height of the Building. The principal Front of the Schools on the outside is about 150 Feet in length, in the middle whereof is a great Gate with a Magnificent Tower over it.

The
Theatre.

Ten Paces from the Schools stands the Theatre, of a circular Form almost, it hath a flat Roof composed of short pieces of Timber continu'd to a great Breadth, without Arch-work or Pillar to support them, being sustain'd only by the Side-walls and their own Texture, tho' from Side-wall to Side-wall it is 80 Foot over one way, and 70 the other, which gave one that view'd it occasion to say, that the Foundation was on the Roof.

This Edifice was built by that celebrated Architect Sir *Christopher Wren*, at the Expence of Archbishop *Sheldon*, the Chancellor, *Anno Dom.* 1668, and cost his Grace no less than 15000 l. besides which he left 2000 l.

to

to purchase Lands for the perpetual Repair of it.

On the West of the Theatre stands *Ashmole's Musæum*, a handsome Edifice *Musæum.* built by the University, of white hewn Stone, and fash'd like our modern Houses, being about 60 Foot long: It was finished in the Year 1683, when a very valuable Collection of Antiquities and foreign Curiosities were presented to the University, and repositied in it by *Elias Ashmole*, Esq. this Inscription being set upon the Front of the Building, viz.

Musæum Ashmoleanum Schola Naturalis Historiæ Officina Chymica.

Several Benefactions have been since made, particularly by Dr. *Huntingdon*, who added some *Egyptian* Hieroglyphicks, and other Antiquities. Mr. *Aaron Goodear* presented them with an entire Mummy.

Dr. *Martin Lyster*, gave the University a large Cabinet of natural Curiosities of his own Collection, and several *Roman* Antiquities, as Medals, Urns, Altars, &c. Doctor *Pound* also gave many Collections of Plants and Animals brought by him from *China*, and preserved in Spirits of Wine; and many other Benefactions have been since added, which makes it one of the richest Repositories of Curiosities in *Europe*.

Mr. *Ashmole* also repositied here an excellent Collection of Manuscripts made by himself and his Father Sir *William Dugdale*;

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and

and in the lower Part of the Building is a chymical Elaboratory.

The new
Library.

But the most magnificent Structure in *Oxford* is the new publick Library, for the building whereof that celebrated Physician Dr. *John Radcliff* left the Sum of 40,000 *l.* This Edifice is already carried up 80 Foot high, being of a circular Form, the first Story a double Octogon, or 16 Square, and all above perfectly round: It is built of white hewn Stone, being 100 Foot Diameter from Outside to Outside.

The Walls are three Foot thick, adorn'd with Pilasters, and a noble Ballustrade of Stone, which furround it on the Outside at the Height of 80 Foot, above which there is to be a Cupola 60 Foot high.

Within this Building is another in Form of an Octogon at Bottom, but higher is round like that which encloses it, having Openings into the larger Building, about which, I presume, will stand the several Classes of Books. The lower Part of the interior Building will probably serve as a Hall or common Room to the first Story, and the Rooms over it in like manner as Halls to the superior Classes; for there will be three several Floors; and as the Doctor left 150 *l. per Annum* to the Librarian, and but 100 *l. per Annum* to buy Books for this capacious Edifice, probably he expected the Books would one Day be removed from
the

the *Bodleian* Library to replenish this : But whatever the Doctor designed or expected from his laying out 40,000 *l.* in building one Room, I find a great many People of Opinion that he intended to perpetuate his Memory by it, and therefore give it the Name of *Ratcliff's Mausolæum*.

Near the Schools stands the *Clarendon* Printing-House, built in the Year 1711, with the Money arising by the Sale of the Lord *Clarendon's* History, the Copy whereof was bequeathed to the University by that noble Lord : It stands a little to the Northward of the Schools, being a beautiful Edifice, 115 Foot in Length, and consists of two lofty Stories, built with white hewn Stone, and fash'd : It is adorn'd with the Statues of the nine Muses, and the Effigies of the Earl of *Clarendon* on the Top, as also with a magnificent Portico, supported by large Pillars of the Dorick Order. Besides the several Apartments assigned for printing, there are other spacious Rooms reserved for the Use of the University, in one of which the Heads of Houses meet.

It is a great Disadvantage to these fine Structures, that they are crowded together in very little Order ; had they formed a Square, or stood in some of their spacious Streets, they would have made a much grander Figure.

The PRESENT STATE

After the publick Buildings, the Physick Garden best deserves our Attention, which lies at the East-End of the City, on the River *Cherwell*, opposite to *Magdalen College*: This was the Donation of the Right Honourable *Henry Danvers*, Earl of *Danby*, who purchased the Ground (containing five Acres) of *Magdalen College*, furrounded it with a Wall, and erected several beautiful Gates at the Entrance.

The principal Gate is of the composite Order, and has the following Inscription on it (*viz.*)

Gloriæ Dei optimi maximi Honori Caroli I. Regis in Usum Academicæ et Reipublicæ Henricus Comes Danby, Anno 1632.

The Earl also settled an annual Revenue for the Maintenance of the Garden, and furnishing it with Plants and Herbs, of which there are a vast Variety, foreign and domestick, of great Use to such Gentlemen of the University as study Physick: There are also many Plants, which are proper to Countries lying between the Tropicks, or very warm Climates; such as the *Annana* or Pine Apple, the Plantain, the Coffee Shrub, the Caper-tree, the Cinnamon, and several kinds of Aloes.

Of these the Fruit of the *Annana* or *Indian* Pine Apple comes to great Perfection, having the same delicious Flavour as it has in warmer Climates, the Caper, and the
Coffee

Coffee Shrub, also bear well, but the Plantain affords only Leaves, and the Cinnamon is a very inconsiderable Plant, scarce three Inches in Circumference.

I proceed in the next Place to the Description of the several Colleges, and first that of *St. Mary Magdalen*, being the first we meet with in the Road from *London*.

C H A P. III.

Contains a Description of the several Colleges and Halls in Oxford.

THE College of *St. Mary Magdalen* Magdalen College. is situated without the East-gate upon the River *Cherwell*, the Buildings are very extensive, but neither regular nor beautiful; there is a small Court just within the great Gate, from whence we pass into a Cloyster, which encompasses a pretty large Quadrangle on the South-Side whereof, are the Chapel, the Hall, the Kitchen, and their common Rooms (for they have several) and over the rest of the Cloyster are the Lodgings of the Students, and the Library.

Their Chapel is a handsome, spacious Edifice, in which is a Piece of Painting representing the last Judgment, celebrated by an eminent modern Poet for a most exquisite Piece, but does not seem to deserve the Encomiums he bestows upon it. They have

have an Organ in the Chapel, and divine Service sung here as in a Cathedral; to the Hall we ascend from the South Cloyster by pretty steep Stairs: This Room is large enough to contain the Society, but has nothing extraordinary in its Structure.

The most remarkable Edifice among the old Buildings is a fine Tower or Steeple, about 150 Foot high, adorned with Pinnacles and other Works, and contains a musical Ring of Bells: This Tower was erected by Cardinal *Wolfey*, once a Fellow and Burser of this House.

But the Beauty of *Magdalen* College is the new Building, situated about 200 Feet North of the above-mentioned Cloyster; this Edifice is 300 Feet in Length, and consists of three Floors or Stories above the Cellars: A Ballustrade of Stone runs along the Top of it, and there is also a fine Cloyster supported by substantial, square Pillars, which runs the whole Length of the Building: The Rooms on the first Floor are thirteen Foot high, and those over it twelve and better. The whole is built of white hewn Stone, and fash'd after the modern Way: To this Building it is intended to add two Sides more, and with the old Building on the South to form one large Quadrangle, 240 Foot over either Way: The Front or grand Entrance of this Quadrangle is intended to be on the West-Side, and not towards
the

the Street, which is taken up by the Chapel, Hall, Common Rooms, Kitchen, &c. for this Part of the old Building, as I have intimated already, is design'd to stand: But when the other two Sides of this fine Square will be built, they do not pretend to conjecture; and some of them seem to be out of Humour at the laying out so much Money on that which is already erected: However, I perceive, they design to reimburse themselves in Part, by letting out the Chambers at very high Rents.

There are several Particulars, wherein this College is observed to have the Advantage of any other in the University, as its being situated on the River *Cherwell*, in a manner out of Town, with a fine Prospect of the adjacent Country: Some of them are of Opinion that the Walk upon the River, and their Grove, are Beauties not to be parallel'd.

It is true, the Walk, which is inclos'd by the Branches of the River *Cherwell*, is pleasant enough, and very extensive (about three quarters of a Mile round) and this encompasses a fine Meadow; but it must be admitted on the other hand, that the Walk is much too narrow, and very irregular; and that the River is too often in extremes, sometimes immoderately wide, and at others so very narrow, covered with Weeds and Sedge, that it appears like an ordinary Ditch,

Ditch, which happen'd to be the Case at *Midsummer* 1740; and in *January* before, the fine Meadow, which the Walk encompasses, was overflow'd, as well as the Meadows on the further Side: The Water cover'd them for a Month or more, a Scene in in the Depth of Winter not very agreeable, and perhaps not very healthful.

What they call the Grove was once a charming Solitude; but most of the Trees are cut down, except those that stand upon the Walks, which consist of lofty Elms; but the Walks are too narrow. Since the Trees have been cut down they have converted the Grove into a Paddock, which feeds about twenty Head of Deer, and there is a very fine Bowling-green on one Side of it.

This College was founded by *William Patten*, of *Wainfleet* in *Lincolnshire*, usually call'd *Wainfleet* from the said Village, where he was born: He was educated in *Winchester* School, from whence he was sent to New College in *Oxon*: Having taken the Degree of Batchelor of Divinity, he was appointed Chief Master of *Winchester* School, where he continued twelve Years, and then was made Provost of *Eaton* College by King *Henry VI.* who preferr'd him to the Bishoprick of *Winchester* in the Year 1447; and in the 1449 he was constituted Lord High Chancellor of *England*.

He

He first founded a Hall in *Oxford* without the East-Gate, which he dedicated to the Honour of *St. Mary Magdalen*; and in the Year 1456 obtain'd leave of King *Henry VI.* to convert *St. John's* Hospital, situated further Eastward on the River *Cherwell*, into a College, which the Hospitallers thereupon surrender'd to Trustees for that Use, with all their Manors, Lands and Possessions; in consideration whereof there were settled on the said Hospitallers certain Pensions during their Lives; and the same Year the Bishop being impower'd by a Royal Charter to found his College on the Site of the Hospital, he erected the great Quadrangle, and the Cloysters about it, and the Chambers, and Library over them; and built also the Chapel and Hall in his Life-time; which having replenish'd with Fellows, &c. from the aforesaid Hall, and other Seminaries, he ordain'd, that this Foundation should be a perpetual College for poor and indigent Clerks in the University of *Oxford*, studying Arts and Sciences; and that it should bear the Name of *St. Mary Magdalen*, in Honour of the Blessed Virgin *Mary*, *St. Mary Magdalen*, *St. John the Baptist*, *St. Peter*, and *St. Paul*: the Glorious Confessor *St. Swithin*, and all the Tutelar Saints of the Cathedral Church of *Winton*; and that the Number of Fellows should be Forty: He appointed also thirty Scholars, called Demies or Se-

mi-commoners, with four Chaplain Priests, eight Clerks, and sixteen Choristers, besides Servants.

Among the subsequent Benefactors to this College was *William Fitz Alan*, Earl of *Arundel*, who stipulated with the President and Fellows, 1 *Richard II.* That they, and their Successors for ever, should celebrate Daily Mass for the Soul of himself, and the Soul of his Son *Thomas Maltravers*, and the rest of his Ancestors, at an Altar from thence called the *Arundel Altar*: And that all Doctors and Masters of this College, should mention them, as well in their Prayers at *Oxford*, as in their Sermons, at *St. Paul's*, in *London*; on which Condition he gave them the Hospital of *St. James*, at *Aynoe*, in *Northamptonshire*, with all the Lands, &c. thereto belonging, which I perceive the College retain, tho' the Masses have been disus'd ever since the Reformation.

What the Revenues of this College are at this Day, it may be difficult to ascertain; but it is generally held to be one of the richest Foundations of the Kind in *England*, which, 'tis said, occasion'd that violent Prosecution in the Reign of King *James II.* and indeed, there seldom want hungry Courtiers in any Reign, who hope, by misrepresenting these Seats of Learning, to get
their

their Houses dissolv'd, in order to share the Plunder among themselves.

There were at the last Publick Act, *Anno* 1733, in this College, one President, forty Fellows, four Chaplains, thirty Demies, and twenty Exhibitioners; the whole Number of Students in their Books, one hundred and eight; and, as I am inform'd, there are about the same Number at present.

The next College we meet with after we have pass'd St. *Mary Magdalen* is that of *Queen's*, which stands within the East-Gate, on the North Side of the *High-Street*. *Queen's College.*

The whole Area, on which this fine College is built, is an oblong Square of 300 Foot in Length, and about 200 in Breadth, which being divided by the Hall and Chapel forms two spacious Courts.

The South-End, which is the grand Front, abuts upon the *High-Street*; in the middle whereof is a magnificent Gate, and over it the Statue of *Queen Caroline*, under a Cupola supported by Pillars; the rest of the Front being adorned with Niches, but no Chambers on this Side.

The first, or South Court, is a handsome Quadrangle, 140 Foot long, and 130 broad, having a lofty Cloyster supported by square Pillars on the West and South, and another Cloyster designed on the East. Over the West Cloyster are two Stories, consisting

of the Chambers of the Fellows and Students, a Gallery, and an elegant common Room; and within that Cloyster on the Ground Floor is the magnificent Apartment of the Provost. Over the East Cloyster also are designed Chambers for the Fellows and Students to be built like these already erected, of white hewn Stone, and fash'd. The second, or North Court, is 130 Foot long, and 90 broad, having the Hall and Chapel on the South; a Cloyster, with a Library over it on the West; and Chambers for the Fellows and Students on the North and East.

The Buildings are in general very fine; but those that are most admired are the Chapel, the Hall, the Library, the Provost's Lodgings and the common Room.

The Chapel stands between the two Courts, as has been intimated already, and is 100 Foot long, and 30 broad, having an arch'd Roof of a proportionable Height. The Windows are admirably painted, and cast such a venerable Shade, that it must inspire every one with Devotion that enters this elegant Oratory: The Altar-piece is admirably fine, and the lofty Cupola, supported by Pillars, no small Ornament to the College.

The Hall, which is separated from the Chapel only by a handsome Portico, is 60 Foot long, and 30 broad, with an arch'd
Roof

Roof of a fuitable Height, and appears to be one of the best proportion'd Rooms in *Oxford*: It is extremely well illuminated, and has a Chimney-piece of beautiful Marble, but a little of the heaviest, and there is an Opening from the Gallery over the West Cloyster, which seems designed for Musick, and hither Strangers are frequently brought, who desire to see the Society at Dinner. The Library is built over the western Cloyster of the inner Court, and is indeed a very elegant and spacious Room, 100 Feet in Length, adorn'd with beautiful Classes, and well replenish'd with Books and Manuscripts in most Languages.

The Master's Lodgings, which we enter by the western Cloyster of the first Court are lofty, spacious Rooms, well wainscotted and finish'd, and would make no mean Figure in a Nobleman's Palace. To the common Room we ascend from the same Cloyster by a handsome Stair-case and Gallery over the same Cloyster: This is a large square Room, wainscotted with Oak, and adorn'd with a Chimney-piece of excellent vein'd Marble, being in all Respects suitable to the rest of the Apartments.

Robert Egglesfield, a Native of *Cumberland*, and Batchelor of Divinity in this University, having purchased several Tenements in the Parish of *St. Peter's* in the East,
erected

erected there a Collegiate Hall at the Instance (and I presume by the Encouragement) of *Queen Philippa*, Consort to King *Edward III.* giving it the Name of *Aula Scholarium Reginæ de Oxon*; and on the 18th of *January*, 1340, obtained the Royal Charter for incorporating the Society of this Hall or College, by Virtue whereof he constituted a Provost and twelve Fellows, ordering that the Provost should be chosen out of the Fellows, and be in holy Orders; and that for the future the Fellows should be elected out of the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Westmoreland*; directing also, that seventy poor Children or Scholars, after the Number of our Saviour's Disciples, should be maintained and educated here, out of whom the vacant Fellowships from Time to Time should be supplied: He ordered the Society also to be call'd together at their Meals by the Sound of a Horn (which is now converted into a Trumpet) and that when the Fellows in their Purple Gowns had placed themselves on the further Side of the Table, the middle whereof is reserved for the Provost; the poor Scholars should kneel before them on the opposite Side, and answer such Questions in Philosophy as should be put to them by the Fellows before Dinner began: Blue Gowns however are now diffus'd, the Fellows wear only black; nor were there ever the intended
Number

Number of seventy poor Scholars, as I can learn ; but that Part of the Statute, which obliges these Scholars to kneel before the Fellows at Table, and answer such Questions as are put to them, is still kept up.

The principal Benefactors, besides the Founder, were King *Edward III.* and his Queen *Philippa* ; King *Charles I.* who gave this College three Rectories and three Vicarages in *Hampshire* ; Sir *Joseph Williamson*, who rebuilt Part of the College, and left 6000 *l.* towards the finishing it, besides a most valuable Library of Books ; Dr. *Barlow*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, also gave his Books to this Library ; Dr. *Lancaster*, the Provost of this College, and Dr. *Timothy Halton* were great Benefactors : And this Society have been wonderful fortunate of late, having had two Benefactions left them of the Value of 6 or 7000 *l.* each ; but they are obliged by the last to admit a certain Number of Fellows to be added to the former (as I remember seven) who are to be elected from other Colleges in the University, and not out of their own College.

The Number of Members upon the Books in this College at the last publick Act, *Anno 1733*, were one Provost, sixteen Fellows, eight Chaplains, nine Tabarders, sixteen poor Scholars, two Clerks, and twenty Exhibitioners : The whole Number of Students of all kinds being 113 ; and they rather increase

crease than decline, notwithstanding they are at Liberty to elect their Fellows out of any County where they have an Estate, and they have a pretty good one in *Hampshire*: It is observed, that the northern Gentlemen keep the Fellowships pretty much to themselves.

*New Col-
lege.*

New College is situated North of *Queen's*, from which it is separated only by a narrow Lane. We enter this College by a magnificent Portal, leading into the first Court, which is a Quadrangle of about 100 Foot long, and 80 broad, with a fine Statue of *Pallas* in the middle of it: Beyond this Court there is a second, or inner Court, not so large as the former, but exceeding beautiful, said to be erected after the Model of *Versailles*, with triple Wings, and opening on the East into a Garden, from which it is separated by an Iron Palisade, and Gate of the same Materials, 130 Feet in Length. This Court is built with white hewn Stone, and fash'd after the modern Way; but Part of the great Quadrangle is built like the rest of the old Buildings in the other Colleges, with a Stone, which was not white at first, or the Weather has changed it to a very great Degree; and the Students Chambers have most of them narrow, arch'd Windows, which are no great Ornaments to these Buildings.

The

The Chapel and Hall however, forming the North-Side of this Court, give it a very grand Air; for the Chapel, it must be confess'd, is the largest and most compleat Building of the Kind in *Oxford*.

The Body of the Chapel is about 100 Foot long, and 30 broad, and of a proportionable Height; the Altar-piece, containing the History of the Annunciation, is finely painted: The Painting of the Windows also is admirable, especially of those that are lately done, containing each of them four Portraits of Saints or Prophets, as large as the Life: These the late venerable Warden, with the Concurrence of the Society, put up at the expence of 100 *l.* a Window: Nor does the Chapel want any other Ornaments proper for a Place where Cathedral Service is perform'd; and there cannot be a finer Room for Musick, both the Organ and Voices are heard to great Advantage.

We enter this Chapel by the Anti-chapel, a magnificent Building, 80 Foot long, and 36 broad; which runs cross the West-end of the former, and is supported by two vast Pillars.

Adjoining to the Chapel is a spacious Cloyster: On the North-Side of which is a lofty Tower, with a tunable Ring of Bells; but there is no Steeple contiguous to the Chapel.

The Hall, which is situated at the East-end of the Chapel, is about 70 Foot long,
H and

and 35 broad, and of a proportionable Height: This is the largest Hall in *Oxford*, except that of *Christ-Church*; and esteem'd a better proportion'd Room.

The Library consists of two Rooms, each of them about 70 Feet in Length, and 22 in Breadth; both of them well replenished with Books.

The Warden's Lodge is a magnificent and commodious Apartment; the Rooms exceedingly well finish'd, and beautifully furnish'd; and there is a pretty Garden belonging to it. The Fellows Garden also is a very desirable Spot of Ground, lying East of the inner Court, planted with Evergreens, and a Mount in the middle of it; on the Top whereof is a Summer House that commands good part of the City; but the most agreeable Prospect from thence is the inner Court already mentioned, with its inimitable Wings.

This College was founded by Dr. *William Long*, a Native of *Wickham* in *Hampshire*; from whence he obtain'd the Name of *William* of *Wickham*: He was advanc'd by King *Edward III.* who constituted him Bishop of *Winchester*, and Lord High Chancellor of *England*.

He maintain'd seventy Students in several Halls at *Oxford* for seven Years before he erected this College; and in the Year 1379 obtained a Charter for their Incorporation.

The

The Foundation Stone was laid *March 5, 1379*; and it was finish'd on *April 14, 1386*; when the Warden and Fellows took possession of it by a solemn Procession. Besides a Warden, he appointed seventy Scholars, ten Chaplains, three Clerks, and sixteen Choristers, with handsome Stipends; directing, that fifty of the Scholars should apply themselves to Arts and Divinity; ten to the Study of the Civil, and ten to the Study of Canon Law.

By a Composition between the University and the Founder, it was agreed, that the Fellows of this College should be admitted to all Degrees in the University, without asking any Grace of the Congregation of Masters, or undergoing any Examination for them in the Publick Schools; provided they were examin'd in the College according to the Form of the University, and had their Graces given them in like Manner by the Government of the House.

Among the subsequent Benefactors, are Dr. *John Buckingham*, Bishop of *Lincoln*; Dr. *Thomas Beckingham*, Fellow of this College, and afterwards Bishop of *Bath and Wells*; Dr. *William Warham*, once Fellow of this College, and afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*, and Lord Chancellor of *England*; Dr. *Thomas White*, Fellow of this College, and Bishop of *Winchester*.

The present Members of this Society are one Warden, seventy Fellows, ten Chaplains, three Clerks, and one Sexton: The whole Number of Students of all kinds being usually about one hundred and fifteen.

*University
College.*

University College is situated on the South-Side of the *High-Street*, opposite to that of *All Souls*, the Front extending 260 Foot and upwards along the Street; This College consists of two Courts, each of them having a handsome Gate, with a Tower over it next the Street; the West Court, called the old Court, is a regular Quadrangle of 100 Foot on every Side; the East or new Court also is a regular Square, eighty Foot over either Way: The principal Buildings are the Chapel, the Hall, the Library, and the Master's Lodge.

The Chapel is situated on the South-Side of the old Quadrangle, being 60 Foot in Length, and 30 in Breadth, and of a proportionable Height: The Hall, which stands also on the South-Side of the old Quadrangle, West of the Chapel, is 60 Foot long, and 30 broad.

The Master's Lodge takes up the East-Side of the new Quadrangle, and is an elegant Building of hewn Stone, and fash'd after the modern Way: *University College* is generally said to be the oldest Foundation in *Oxford*, that it was erected and endow'd

by

by King *Alfred*, Anno 876: But as there are no Remains of those Halls, said to be erected by *Alfred*, and the Students in the Reign of the Conqueror were deprived of their Stipends settled upon them, which used to issue out of the King's Exchequer, and the present College was built and endow'd long after *Baliol*, I find that *Scotish* Foundation disputes the Point of Antiquity with this. And it appears, that the Hall, where this Society perform'd their Exercises, was from the Reign of the Conqueror, till the Year 1249, hired by the Students of the Townsmen, of whom *William*, Archdeacon of *Durham*, the Founder, bought it about that time, and gave it to the Scholars of this House, endowing the same with Lands. The same Archdeacon bequeath'd 310 Marks for the Education of ten or twelve Students in the University at large, which Money the Vice-chancellor and Masters at first lent to the Scholars on Security given for the Repayment of it; afterwards four Masters were delegated for the Administration of this Charity, which was last laid out in making Purchases of Houses for the Students. The most considerable Benefactors after the Archdeacon were *Henry Piercy*, Earl of *Northumberland*; *Robert Dudley*, Earl of *Leicester*; *Robert Gunsley*, Rector of *Tittesly* in *Surry*; *Sir Simon Bennet*, who in the Year

1638

1638 entirely built the extensive Front of this College at his own Expence ; and lately Dr. *Ratcliff*, with whose Benefaction the Master's Lodge, making one Side of the Eastern Quadrangle, was built : The same Gentleman also settled 600 *l. per Annum* on two travelling Fellowships ; and has indeed been the most bountiful Benefactor to the University in general, as well as to this College (of which he was a Member in particular) that has appeared in the two last Centuries.

In this College there are one Master, twelve Fellows, seventeen Scholars, and usually about 100 Students of all Sorts : The Visitors are the Vice-chancellor, Doctors in Divinity, and the two Proctors.

All Souls
College.

The College of *All Souls* is situated in the *High-Street*, West of *Queen's*, and consists chiefly of three Courts ; 1. The old Court, having the *High-Street* on the South, and the Chapel at the North End of it. 2. The Eastern Court, having the *High-Street* on the South, and the Hall on the North : These Courts are none of them large, but their grand Court, situated within the two former, is a spacious and beautiful Quadrangle, having the Library and a Cloyster on the North ; the Hall and Chapel on the South ; the new Cloyster on the West ; and the common Room with other handsome Apartments

Apartments on the East, adorn'd with two beautiful Towers. The Chapel of this College is about 70 Foot long, and 30 broad; the Anti-chapel of the same Dimensions; the Altar-piece is adorn'd with four Columns, and five large Pannels of beautiful, clouded Marble, and over it are the Portraits of the Founder Archbishop *Chicheley*, and the twelve Apostles, finely drawn, the Steps ascending to the Altar are of vein'd Marble admirably polish'd. The Roof of the Chapel is divided into Compartments carv'd and gilded.

In this Chapel the Service is performed as in Cathedrals.

The new Library, the Case of which is finish'd, is 200 Foot long, and 30 broad, and about 40 Foot high, built of white, hewn Stone.

The Statue of that generous Benefactor Colonel *Codrington* is erected in the middle of the Library on a Pedestal of vein'd Marble: This Part of the Building being twice the Breadth of the rest. It appears by an Inscription on the Pedestal, that the Colonel died *Anno* 1710; and that the Statue was erected in the Year 1730. The Area, or wide Space in the middle of the Building, divides it in a manner into two Rooms, otherwise, neither the Breadth or Height would be proportionable to the Length. The Hall is an elegant, wainscotted Room, but small, being no more than

than 50 long, and 28 broad, in which are the Potraits of Archbishop *Chicheley* the Founder, and Colonel *Codrington*.

The Warden's Lodge, which fronts the *High-Street*, and is contiguous to the East-Side of the College, is a handsome House, built of white, hewn Stone, and fash'd, and has an Iron Palisade before it: This is the only House built of Stone in the *High-Street*.

The new Cloyster is by some esteem'd a magnificent Building; but by others so exceeding heavy, that it ought to be pull'd down to make room for something better.

The Founder of this College, Dr. *Henry Chicheley* was born at *Higham Ferrers* in *Northamptonshire*, and being sent to *Winchester* School was removed from thence to *New College* in *Oxford*, Anno 1387, where he took the Degree of Doctor of Civil Law; he was made Archdeacon of *Sarum*, and afterwards Chancellor of the same Church by Dr. *Richard Medford*, Bishop of that Diocese, and becoming known to King *Henry IV.* was sent on several Embassies to foreign Princes by that Monarch, and advanced first to the Bishoprick of *St. David's*, in which having continued five Years, he was translated on July 29, 1414, to the See of *Canterbury*, of which he remained Archbishop twenty-nine Years: He laid the Foundation of *All Souls* College in

1437

1437, the Charter of Incorporation is dated May 20, 16 Henry VI, in which it is called *Collegium Animarum omnium defunctorum de Oxon.*

By the Statutes he gave this College, he appointed forty Fellows, whereof twenty-four were directed to study Divinity and Philosophy, and the other sixteen the Civil and Canon Law: He procur'd from King Henry VI. a Grant of the Lands and Revenues of several dissolv'd Priories to endow his College, and in his Life-time erected the Chapel Hall, and all the rest of the Buildings (except some very modern ones) which cost him 4545 *l.* and at his Death gave to the Society the Sums of 134 *l.* 6 *s.* 8 *d.* and 1000 Marks.

The most considerable Benefactors next to the Founder have been Colonel William Codrington, Governor of the Leeward Islands, and Fellow of *All Souls*, already mentioned; and George Clark, L. L. D. also Fellow of this College. The Colonel bequeath'd 6000 *l.* for building the noble Library already describ'd, his own valuable Study of Books, and 4000 *l.* more to purchase new ones; and the Doctor erected the fine Lodge already mention'd, and beautified the Chapel, particularly the Altar, either at his own Expence, or by the Collections he made among his Friends.

In this College are one Warden, forty Fellows, two Chaplains, and nine Scholarships. The Visitor is the Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

*Brazen
Nose Col-
lege*

Brazen Nose College is situated near the Schools, on the West-side of Dr. *Ratcliff's* Library.

It was founded by Dr. *William Smith*, Bishop of *Litchfield* and *Coventry*; afterwards translated to *Lincoln*; and chosen Chancellor of this University; he was assisted by his Kinsman *Richard Sutton*, of *Presbury*, in the County of *Chester*, Esq; who contributed largely to the building and endowing this College, for which, Bishop *Smith* and the said *Sutton* obtain'd a Charter from *Henry VIII. Anno 1511* by which they were stil'd the Principal and Scholars of *King's Hall*, and *Brazen Nose* College; and authoris'd to purchase Lands, of the yearly Value of 300*l.* exclusive of all Taxes and Reprisals.

There are in *Brazen Nose*, twenty Fellows, thirty Scholarships, four Exhibitors; and the whole Number of Students in their Books were lately one hundred and twelve.

I proceed in the next Place to the Description of the three Colleges, situated between

tween the new Church of *All Saints* in the *High-Street*, and the *Tull* or *Torald-gate*.

These are *Lincoln*, *Exeter*, and *Jesus*, which form almost an entire Street alone : I do not remember three private Houses in it.

The first of these Colleges going from *All Saints* is *Lincoln*, situated on the East-Side of the said Street, the Front extending *Lincoln College.* 210 Feet in Length : It consists of two Courts, *viz.* the greater or North Court, and the lesser or the South Court : The greater we enter through a handsome Portal with a Tower over it ; this is a regular Quadrangle, 80 Feet over either Way. The lesser, or South Court, also has a Gate into the Street, and is a regular Square, 70 Feet on every Side.

The principal Buildings are the Chapel, the Hall, and the Library : The Chapel is situated on the South-Side of the lesser Court, and is an exceeding pretty Room, about 35 Feet long, and 20 broad ; the Skreen whereof is Cedar, finely carv'd, and mentioned by Dr. *Pht* as a very great Curiosity.

The Hall stands at the upper End of the great Court, opposite to the Gate, and is within the Skreens 40 Feet in Length, and 25 in Breadth, and of a proportionable Height. It was built in the Year 1631, at the Expence of Dr. *John Williams*, Bishop of *Lincoln*.

The Library is a handsome Edifice in the great Court over the common Room, about 25 Feet long, and 20 broad, well replenish'd with Books.

The Bishop of *Lincoln* is Visitor of this College.

This College was founded by *Richard Flemming*, a Native of *Crofton* in *Yorkshire*, who received his Education in this University, where he was a strenuous Assertor of *Wickliff's* Doctrine, and afterwards no less zealous against it; insomuch, that it is said he designed this College as a Seminary for learned Men, who should oppose those Opinions: He was made Bishop of *Lincoln* by King *Henry V.* and died in the Year 1431: He began this Foundation when he had been Bishop about seven Years, and obtained the Charter of Incorporation from King *Henry VI.* in the sixth Year of his Reign, whereby he was empower'd to annex the Rectory of *Allhallows* to it; and constituted the Rector and Fellows perpetual Patrons of this Church.

And, though the Bishop died before he finish'd the Design, the Building was carried on by the Money he left for that Purpose, and by subsequent Benefactors, among whom was *Thomas Rotherham*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, who gave them also a Body of Statutes, whereby he enjoin'd them to chuse a Rector out of the Diocese of *Lincoln*; and that

that the Fellows should be elected out of the Diocesses of *York*, and *Bath* and *Wells*. This Bishop was translated from *Lincoln* to the See of *York*, and constituted Lord Chancellor of *England*.

The present Members are the Rector, twelve Fellows, nine Scholars, and twenty Exhibitioners: The Students of all Sorts amounting to about seventy.

Jesus College is situated just within the *Tull* or *Torald-gate*, and consists of two Courts one within the other: The outer, or Eastern Court is 90 Feet in Length, and 70 in Breadth; and the inner Court 100 Feet long, and 90 broad; the Buildings tolerably regular.

Jesus
College.

The Chapel stands on the North-Side of the first Court: The Hall on the West-Side of it, opposite to the great Gate; neither of them large, or have any Thing extraordinary in them that requires a particular Description.

Dr. *Hugh Price*, of *Brecknock* in *Wales*, by whose Benefaction this College was built, and endow'd, is generally held to be the Founder, tho' Queen *Elizabeth*, who granted him a Charter of Incorporation, dated *June 27, 1571*, caused herself to be stil'd the Founder of it; in consideration whereof she supplied him with Timber for the Building out of her Woods of *Stow* and *Shotover*.

Shotover. The rest of the Lands granted by the Doctor for the Uses of this Society, amounted to 160*l.* *per Annum*, which he gave for the Maintenance of the Fellows and Scholars to be elected out of *Wales*, and not living to see the Buildings finish'd, he bequeath'd them 700 *l.* in Money; 300 *l.* whereof were laid out in the Building, and 400 *l.* in the Purchase of Lands. There have been a great Number of Benefactions given to this College, the most considerable whereof was that of Sir *Leoline Jenkins*, L. L. D. sometime Principal of this College, afterwards Judge of the Admiralty, and one of the *British* Plenipotentiaries at the Treaties of *Breda* and *Nimeguen*, and Secretary of State to King *Charles II.* and King *James II.* This Gentleman by his last Will devised his whole Estate, almost to the Uses of this Society.

Edmund Meyrick, a Native of the County of *Merioneth*, and Fellow elect of this College, afterwards Precentor of the Collegiate Church of *Brecknock*, and Treasurer of *St. David's*, devised his whole Estate to Trustees for the Use of this Society, and died *Anno 1713.*

The present Members are one Principal, nineteen Fellows, eighteen Scholars, and twenty-one Exhibitioners: The whole Number of Students usually about one hundred and fifty.

Exeter

Exeter College is situated within the *Tull-gate*, opposite to *Jesus*; the Front whereof is 220 Feet long, in which is a magnificent Gate, with a Tower over it: It consists chiefly of one large Quadrangle, about one hundred and thirty-five Feet over either Way, formed by the Hall, the Chapel, the Library, and the Chambers of the Fellows and Scholars; and is pretty regular and uniform.

The Gardens, considering it stands within the Town, are moderately large.

Walter, Bishop of *Exeter*, obtained a Charter for founding a College, where *Hartford* College now stands, but wanting room for the Buildings he design'd, he removed his Scholars to the present House, situated within the *Torald-gate*, and gave it the Name of *Stapledon Hall* after his own Name. By the Statutes he gave the College, he limited the Number of Fellows to thirteen, directing, that eight of these should be elected out of the Archdeaconries of *Exeter*, *Totness* and *Barnstaple* in *Devonshire*, four out of the Archdeaconry of *Cornwall*, and that the Rector the 13th should be in Priest's Orders, and chosen by the Dean and Chapter of *Exeter*, as often as they saw fit.

Among the subsequent Benefactors was *Edmund Stafford*, Bishop of *Exeter*, who obtained

obtained leave of the Pope to alter the Name of this House, and call it *Exeter* College.

The present Members are one Rector, twenty-three Fellows, one Bible Clerk, three Exhibitioners : The whole Number of Students about eighty.

Trinity
College.

Without the City, opposite to the *Tullgate*, stands *Trinity* College ; the Front whereof is odly formed by the South-Side of the Chapel, we enter the first Court by a Gate under the Tower ; this Court is very small : The South-Side is taken up by the Chapel ; the East by the President's Lodgings ; the West-Side by the Hall and common Room ; and the North by the Chambers of the Fellows and Students.

The second Court is much larger than the first, and elegantly built of hewn Stone, and fash'd after the modern Way, on the North, West and South ; but on the East it lies open to the Garden, from which it is separated by a beautiful Iron Gate and Palisade, adorn'd with magnificent Stone Pillars : This Court may be esteemed one of the Beauties of *Oxford*, not only on account of its Buildings ; but its Situation opening into one of the finest and most spacious Gardens in Town.

The Chapel also, tho' it be small, is exquisitely fine wainscotted with Cedar, admirably carv'd, the Floor laid with black
and

and white Marble: On the Cieling is an Ascension finely painted, and the Altarpiece is equal to the rest.

The Hall is a handsome Room, capacious enough for the Society entertained in it, and as near as I can compute by my Eye, about 40 Feet long, and 20 broad.

The Gardens of this College are large and well laid out, containing about three Acres of Ground: They are divided into three Parts; the first, which we enter from the grand Quadrangle, consists of fine Gravel Walks and Grass-plots, adorn'd with Evergreens; and the Walls entirely cover'd with them, as those in other College Gardens generally are: Adjoining to this on the South is another Garden with shady Walks of *Dutch* Elms, and beyond a Wilderness, adorn'd with Fountains, close Arbours, round Stone Tables, and other Embellishments.

As to the Foundation of *Trinity* it appears, that *Durham* College, a Seminary in *Oxford* for the Education of the Monks of the Cathedral of *Durham*, was dissolved with other religious Houses in the Reign of *Henry VIII.* and in the seventh of *Edward VI.* leased by the Crown to *George Owen*, of *Godstow*, the King's Physician, and to *William Martin*, Gent. under the Rent of 1 *l.* 6 *s.* 2 *d.* who by Deed, dated *February 20, 2 Philip and Mary, 1554,* convey'd

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the same to Sir *Thomas Pope*, of *Tittenbanger* in *Hertfordshire*.

Sir *Thomas*, having procured the said Rent to be remitted, obtained a Charter, dated *March 8, 1554*, to convert this religious House into a College, adding several Buildings to it, and endowing it with a suitable Revenue, appointing a President and twelve Fellows to be educated in the Studies of Philosophy and Divinity, and the eight Scholars in Logic, Rhetoric, and other Arts, all of them to be chosen out of the Counties and Diocesses, where the College had any Livings or Lands; and if none appeared qualified within those Limits on the Day of Election (*Trinity Monday*) then to be chosen from any other Part of *England*, provided, that no more than two be chosen out of any one County, unless that of *Oxford*, out of which five might be elected, and he afterwards appointed four other poor Scholars to be on the Foot of the former eight, granting other Lands for their Maintenance and Education.

Among the subsequent Benefactors were *Richard Blount*, of *London*, Esq. *Edward Bathurst*, S.T.P. and *Ralph Bathurst*, M.D. late President of this College, who expended 1900 *l.* in building and adorning their beautiful Chapel.

The present Members of this Society are one President, twelve Fellows, twelve Scholars,

lars, two Exhibitioners: The whole Number of Students of all Sorts about one hundred.

Baliol College is situated in *Magdalen* *Baliol*
College Parish without the North Gate, a little to the Westward of *Trinity*, and consists chiefly of one large Court, 120 Feet long, and 80 broad, which we enter by a handsome Gate, with a Tower over it: The Buildings about this Court are antient, and make no great Figure; but there is a Building at the West-end of this College well finish'd with white, hewn Stone, and fash'd after the modern Way; and the rest of the College is intended to be made equal to this in a little Time.

The Chapel stands at the North-east Angle of the great Court, being fifty Feet long, and thirty broad. The Hall is at the West-end of the same Court, 40 Feet long, and 30 broad. The Master's Lodge is a convenient Apartment, and has some good Rooms in it; and their Library is well replenish'd with Books; but the Buildings of this College in general are ancient, and want some modern Alterations.

Sir *John Baliol* of *Bernard Castle* in *Yorkshire*, Father of *John Baliol*, King of *Scotland*, is said to have first design'd the Foundation of this College for the Education of poor Scholars; on whom he settled yearly Exhibitions, till he cou'd provide them an

House, and dying before he purchased one, he recommended the Design to his Widow and Relict *Devorgilla*, Daughter of *Alexander III.* King of *Scotland*, who first settled these Exhibitions on a House she hired of the University in *Horsmanger-Street*; and in 1284 she purchas'd of *John de Ew*, a Tenement then call'd *St. Mary Hall*, and convey'd it with three Acres of Land to the Principal and Scholars of this House for ever for their Habitation, having obtain'd a Royal Charter for that purpose: She afterwards added several new Buildings to it, and settled other Lands for the Maintainance of the Scholars, Dedicating her Foundation to the Honour of the Holy *Trinity*, the Blessed Virgin, and *St. Catherine the Martyr*: Which Benefactions were afterwards ratified by her Son *John Baliol*, King of *Scotland*, and *Oliver*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, in whose Diocese *Oxford* then was. The Original Stipends paid the Fellows was a Penny to each every Day of the Week and two-pence on *Sundays*; the Value of the Lands and Revenues belonging to this College not exceeding twenty seven Pounds nine Shillings and four Pence *per Annum* at that time; but their Revenues were soon after greatly enlarg'd by the Benefactions of others, particularly Sir *Philip Somerville*, a *Scotish* Gentleman in the *Baliol* Interest, granted to this College the Parish of *Mickle Benton*

Benton in the County of *Northumberland*; and Dr. *John Warner*, Bishop of *Rochester*, erected four *Scotish* Fellowships, endowing them with a Revenue of fourscore Pounds *per Annum* each.

The Members of this Society are at present one Master, twelve Fellows, fourteen Scholars, and eighteen Exhibitioners: The whole Number of Students of all Sorts amounting to about one hundred. The Master and Fellows elect their Visitor.

St. *John's* College is situated North of *Baliol*, in that pleasant Street of St. *Giles's*, having a Walk planted with tall Elms before it. St. *John's*
College

This College consists of two Courts moderately large, into the first we enter by a handsome Gate having a lofty Tower over it; opposite to this Gate is another, which leads into the second or inner Quadrangle, adjoining to the Garden; on two sides whereof are handsome Cloysters: The Chapel stands on the North-Side of the first Quadrangle, and is a spacious Edifice floor'd with Marble, and adorn'd with a fine Altar-piece, Organ, Stalls, and other Furniture proper to a Chapel where Cathedral Service is perform'd.

The Gardens belonging to this College also are large and well laid out; in the first the Walks are planted with *Dutch* Elms,
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and the Walls cover'd with Ever-greens: The inward Garden has every Thing almost that can render such a Place agreeable, as a Terras, a Mount, Wilderness, and well contriv'd Arbours; but notwithstanding this is much more admir'd by Strangers than the other; the outer Garden is become the general Rendezvous of Gentlemen and Ladies every *Sunday* Evening in Summer: Here we have an Opportunity of seeing the whole University together almost, as well as the better Sort of Townsmen and Ladies, who seldom fail of making their Appearance here at the same Time, unless the Weather prevents them.

This College was founded by Sir *Thomas White*, Alderman and Merchant-Taylor, of *London*, Anno 1555, 2 *Philip* and *Mary*; and afterwards refounded by him, Anno 1557: He endow'd it with several considerable Manors; and at his Death bequeath'd the Sum of 3000 *l.* to purchase Lands to encrease the Revenues of it. The most considerable Benefactors since have been Archbishop *Laud*; and Bishop *Juxon*; the latter gave 6000 *l.* to this College.

The present Members are one President, thirty-nine Fellows, and eleven Scholars: The Students of all Sorts being usually about one hundred twenty; the Scholars are elected from *Merchant-Taylor's* School.

Wadham

Wadham College is situated without the City also, in that Part of the Suburb, call'd *Holywell*: It consists chiefly of one grand Quadrangle, and another very small Court within it. The Front of the College is almost opposite to *Trinity* Gardens, having a large Gate, with a Tower over it, by which we enter the grand Quadrangle, being near 130 Foot over either Way. *Wadham College.*

The Chapel is a spacious Edifice at the North-East Angle of the great Court. The Anti-chapel, which runs North and South cross the inner Chapel, being 80 Feet long, and 35 broad, and the inner Chapel 70 Feet long, and 30 broad, of a proportionable Height: What is most admired here is a very large Window of painted Glass at the East-End, wherein there are a great Variety of Figures admirably done; this was put up in the Reign of King *James I.* and as I am informed by a Senior Fellow of the College cost 1500*l.*

The Hall is situated at the South-East Angle of the great Court, being 70 Feet in Length, 35 in Breadth, and of a proportionable Height.

The Library is a lofty, spacious Room over the Kitchen, 55 Feet long, and 30 broad, and well replenish'd with Books.

The Gardens are large, as the Gardens of most of the Colleges are, that stand in the Suburbs, and the Warden's Garden has one of

of the most elegant Summer Houses in the middle of it, that is to be met with in *Oxford*; for the Head of every College has a Garden, which belongs to his Apartment; and the Fellows another appropriated to them.

This College was designed by *Nicholas Wadham*, Esq. and founded in pursuance of his Will by *Dorothy Wadham*, his Widow and Relict, *Anno 1613*, who appointed one Warden, fifteen Fellows, fifteen Scholars, two Chaplains, two Clerks, one Manciple, two Cooks, two Butlers, and a Porter; the Warden to be a Native of *Great-Britain*, but to quit the College on his Marriage or Advancement to a Bishoprick: The Fellows, after having compleated eighteen Years from their Regency, to quit their Fellowships: The Scholars, out of whom the Fellows are to be chosen, to be taken three out of *Somersetshire*, and three out of *Essex*; the rest out of any County in *Great-Britain*. The Bishop of *Bath and Wells* for the Time being is Visitor.

The most considerable Benefactor since the Founder was *John Goodridge*, M. A. sometime Fellow of this College, who gave all his Lands at *Walthamstow* in *Essex* to this Society.

The present Members of this Society are one Warden, fifteen Fellows, two Chaplains, fifteen Scholars, two Clerks, and eight Exhibitioners: The whole Number of Students being usually about one hundred and thirty.

Corpus

Corpus Christi is situated in St. *John's* ^{*Corpus Christi*} Parish, between *Christ-Church* on the West, ^{*College.*} and *Merton* College on the East, consisting chiefly of one large Quadrangle, about 100 Foot long, and 80 broad, and a fine Pile of modern Building, which looks into *Christ-Church* Meadows; in which are some of the pleafantest, and most commodious Chambers in *Oxford*.

On the East Side of the Quadrangle is the Hall, being a handsome Edifice, about 50 Foot long, and 25 broad, and of a proportionable Height.

The Chapel, which is situated at the South-east Corner of the Quadrangle, is 70 Foot in Length, and 25 in Breadth.

This College was founded in the Year 1516 by Dr. *Richard Fox*, a Native of *Ropesly*, near *Grantham* in *Lincolnshire*, and fucceffively Bishop of the Sees of *Exeter*, *Bath* and *Wells*, *Durham* and *Winchester*. He first intended it only as a Seminary for the Monks of the Priory or Cathedral Church of St. *Swithin* at *Winchester*, and obtained a Charter for that end, but alter'd his Mind by the Persuasion of *Hugh Oldham*, Bishop of *Exeter*, who promised to be a Benefactor to the House, on condition he would convert it into a College for the Use of Secular Students, after the Manner of other Colleges in the University: Whereupon Bishop *Fox* caused the first Charter to be cancell'd,

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and obtained another, whereby he was permitted to found a College for the Study of Divinity, Philosophy and other liberal Arts *in perpetuum*, with a Power of purchasing Lands of the Value of 350 *l. per Annum* for the Endowment of it: The Charter of Foundation was dated at the Castle of *Wolvesty* on the Calends of *March*, 1516.

He assigned a Body of Statutes for the Government of this Society, whereby he appointed, that it should consist of one President, twenty Fellows or Scholars, two Chaplains, two Clerks, and two Choristers; the Fellows to be elected out of the Dioceses of *Winton*, *Durham*, *Bath* and *Wells*, *Exeter*, and *Lincoln*.

He also settled three Lectures to be performed by the Fellows of the College: The first an Humanity Lecture; the second a *Greek* Lecture; and the third a Divinity Lecture.

Among the Benefactors were *Hugh Oldham*, Chaplain to *Margaret*, Countess of *Richmond*, and afterwards Bishop of *Exeter*, who gave 6000 Marks towards the Building of this College, besides several Estates in Land for the Endowment of it.

The Visitor of this Society is the Bishop of *Winton*; and if any Difference happen between the President and Fellows it is to be decided by the Warden of *New College*.

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The present Members of this Society are one President, twenty Fellows, two Chaplains, twenty Scholars and four Exhibitors: The whole Number of Students being about sixty.

Merton College is situated East of *Corpus Christi*, and consists of three Courts; *Merton College.* the grand or inner Court is about 110 Foot long, and 100 broad.

The chief Buildings here, as in other Colleges, are the Chapel, the Hall, and the Library: The Chapel is situated at the West End of the first Court, and is indeed the Parish Church of *St. John's*. This is one of the best proportioned, *Gothick* Structures in *Oxford*, 100 Feet in Length, and 30 in Breadth, and has a very capacious Tower. The Hall, situated between the first and the inner Court, is 60 Feet in Length, and 35 in Breadth; and the Library forms a small Square.

The Gardens of this College are the most desirable of any in *Oxford*, and have an Advantage (which the others want) of a Prospect of the adjacent Country from the Southern Terras. The Wilderness, Alcoves, Arbours, and Terras's are all admirable in their kind.

This Society, consisting of twenty Scholars, and two Chaplains, was first placed at *Malden* in *Surry* by *Walter de Merton*, Lord

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Chancellor of *England*, and afterwards Bishop of *Rocheſter*, Anno 1261; but he afterwards removed them from *Malden* to *St. John Baptist's Street* in *Oxford*, having built a College on ſome Grounds he purchaſed there: He afterwards eſtabliſh'd them by a Charter he obtained of the Crown in the Year 1270, endowing it with a ſuitable Revenue.

Among the ſubſequent Benefactors were *Ela*, Counteſs of *Warwick*, furnam'd *Longſpee*; *John Willyot*, S. T. P. Chancellor of the Univerſity, who gave all his perſonal Eſtate, and Part of his real Eſtate for the Maintenance of certain Exhibitioners, who were afterwards call'd Poſtmaſters; and *John Chambers*, once a Fellow of this College, gave a thouſand Pounds to purchaſe Eſtates for encreaſing their Maintenance. *Henry Sever* and *Richard Fitzjames*, Wardens of the College, were ſuch conſiderable Benefactors that they are look'd upon, in a manner, as Founders.

In the Election of a Warden the Fellows chuſe three Perſons, whom they preſent to their Viſitor the Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, who uſually takes one of them.

The preſent Members are one Warden, twenty-four Fellows, fourteen Poſtmaſters, and two Clerks: The whole Number of Students of all Sorts being about one hundred. This was the firſt College in *Oxford*
that

that was incorporated by a Royal Charter, tho' *Baliol* was the first endow'd with Lands; for if *University-Hall* was endow'd by King *Alfred*, it was only at Pleasure, by a Revenue he assigned the Society out of the Exchequer, which was taken away by *William* the Conqueror, and never restor'd.

Oriel College, which stands on the opposite Side of the Street to that of *Corpus Christi*, consists chiefly of one Court, 110 Foot long, and 100 broad. *Oriel* College.

The Hall and Chapel take up the Side opposite to the great Gate; we ascend by several Steps to the Hall, which is a handsome Edifice, 50 Foot long, and 40 broad. There is also a small Pile of Building in the Garden, built after the modern Way, and fash'd, which none of the old Buildings are in any of the Colleges.

Oriel College was founded by *Adam le Brome*, Almoner to King *Edward* II. of whom he obtained a Charter of Incorporation for the Establishment of it, dated 17 *Edward* II. and was the first Provost thereof himself. King *Edward* II. and *Edward* III. were considerable Benefactors to this College: King *Edward* III. particularly gave them the large Messuage of *Le Oriel*, situate in St. *John's* Parish, by which Name the College was afterwards call'd; from whence this College has been frequently held to be
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a Royal Foundation; but the first Grant was made to *St. Mary Hall*, from whence the Fellows removed to *Oriel* after that House was assign'd to them.

Among the subsequent Benefactors were *John Franke*, Master of the Rolls in the Reign of King *Henry VI.* who gave 1000*l.* to this College at his Death to purchase Lands for the Maintenance of four Fellows; *John Carpent*, once Provost, and afterwards Bishop of *Worcester*, was another Benefactor, as was also *William Smith*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, and *Richard Dudley*, sometime Fellow, and afterwards Chancellor of the Church of *Sarum*: The last of these gave the College the Manor of *Swaynswick* in *Somersetshire*, for the Maintenance of two Fellows and six Exhibitioners.

The present Members are one Provost, eighteen Fellows, and fourteen Exhibitioners: The whole Number of Students of all Sorts being about eighty. Their Visitor is the Lord Chancellor for the Time being.

*Christ-
Church
College.*

The most celebrated College in the University of *Oxford*, if we regard either the Dimensions, the Revenues, or Number of Students, is that of *Christ-Church*, situated in *Fish-Street*, consisting of four Courts or Squares, viz. 1. the grand Quadrangle, 2. *Peckwater* Square, 3. *Canterbury* Court, and 4. the Chaplains Court.

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The West Front of the grand Quadrangle next *Fish-Street* is a magnificent and regular Structure, 360 Feet in Length, adorn'd with a Balustrade of Stone: The great Gate whereof is in the middle of this Front, and over it a beautiful Tower that contains the Bell, call'd the *mighty Tom* from its Magnitude: On the Sound whereof at nine in the Evening, the Scholars of the University are supposed to retire to their respective Colleges. This Gate is adorn'd with two other beautiful Towers, *viz.* one on each Side the Gate.

Whoever views this Front attentively, and considers its Extent, the Loftiness of the Rooms, the Depth and Regularity of the Windows, the fine Towers and Balustrade, must acknowledge it exceeds any Thing of the kind in *Great-Britain*.

As to the Dimensions of the grand Quadrangle, on the Inside I find it to be 88 Yards over one Way; *viz.* from East to West, and 87 Yards the other. The Buildings of this Court are regular and uniform, only the Hall, which takes up more than one half of the South Side, is elevated several Yards above the rest, and the whole is adorn'd with a Balustrade of Stone on the Top; but there is very little Ornament besides; nor does this Court make an Appearance answerable to the Front, the Windows being few and small, and every Thing exceeding

exceeding plain, except the Towers at the great Gate already mentioned; nor is the Court laid out very elegantly. There are indeed spacious Gravel Walks on every Side; but the rest of the Court is sunk four Feet beneath the Level of the Walks, having Paths, pitch'd with common Pebbles, cross it. In the middle of the Square is an ordinary Fountain, spouting Water thro' the Statue of *Mercury*, when it plays, which is but seldom.

The second Court, call'd *Peckwater* Square, is situated at the North-east Corner of the grand Quadrangle, being 46 Yards long, and 45 broad.

This is an exceeding, beautiful Court; three Sides of it are built with white, hewn Stone, and regularly fash'd, being adorn'd with a Balustrade of Stone on the Top. The fourth or South Side of this Square is taken up with a magnificent Library, 49 Yards long, supported by Arch-work and vast Stone Pillars. But it is objected by some, that this Square is too small; that the principal Avenues to it are by the Corners; that the Pillars of the Library are useless, and have an exceeding heavy Aspect; and that the Squares of the Sash Windows are small, and of paltry Glafs. This last Defect however may be remedied, but the others never can.

Canterbury Court is a small, irregular Square, South-east of *Peckwater*, consisting
of

of ordinary Buildings, which do not require a particular Description.

The Chaplains Court is situated South-east of the grand Quadrangle. On the North Side whereof is the old Library, which makes no great Figure: As for that noble Collection of Books left to *Christ-Church* by Dr. *Wake*, late Archbishop of *Canterbury*, they remain still in Boxes, design'd, I presume, to furnish the new Library, the Roof whereof was laid on but last Year; tho', I believe, it is between twenty and thirty Years since that Building was begun.

The Court of the Grammar School is situated South of the grand Quadrangle, having the Hall on the North Side of it; but there is nothing in this Court which deserves our Attention.

The Cathedral Church serves as a Chapel to the College, and is one of the least and meanest in *England*; but it is fortunately cover'd from our View by the East Side of the grand Quadrangle. There are however in the Steeple a Set of very tunable Bells.

The Hall, which stands on the South Side of the grand Quadrangle, is a noble Structure, 38 Yards in Length within the Skreens, and 13 broad: The Skreens or Vestibulum being 14 Yards long, and seven broad, and the Height of the Hall within about 40 Foot. We ascend to this spacious

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Hall

Hall by one of the most magnificent Stone Stair-cases I have met with.

The Dean's Lodgings, and some of the Canons, take up the East Side of the grand Quadrangle ; and the North Side also is inhabited by the Canons : These Lodgings make a much grander Appearance on the Inside, than they do without, and have Gardens behind them ; but there is an Apartment of one of the Canons at the Entrance of *Peckwater* Square, that has very much the Air of a Nobleman's House, both without and within, and makes a greater Figure than the Dean's : There is also an elegant Range of Buildings, usually call'd *Fell's*, or the new Building, fash'd after the modern Way, and looking towards the long Walk, and the Meadows, which contain as desirable Apartments as any in *Christ-Church*. The Stone, with which all these Buildings, and the rest of the Colleges are built, is dug within two or three Miles of *Oxford* : It is not of so pure a white as could be wish'd. Next to the Buildings of *Christ's* College, their long, Gravel Walk, planted on each Side with Elms, deserves our Notice, being upwards of a Furlong in Length, and of a proportionable Breadth : This is much the finest Walk about *Oxford*, and yet it is not so much frequented as some others that are in all Respects inferior to it.

Parallel

Parallel to the former is another Walk under the Walls of *Corpus Christi* and *Merton* Colleges, which is much resorted to in bright, frosty Weather, on account of its being cover'd from the North Winds by the Colleges above-mention'd, and warm'd at the same time by the Reflection of the Sun from these Walls; insomuch that it has obtained the Name of the *Dead Man's* Walk; intimating, I presume, that it will almost restore a dead Man to Life: But to return to the College.

The Dean of the Cathedral Church, the Rev. Dr. *Conybear*, is at present Head of this College, besides whom there are eight Canons. The Dean and Canons have their Title and Institution by Royal Grant; and as every other College is govern'd by its local Statutes and Customs, *Christ-Church* is govern'd by no other Laws than the Acts of the Dean and Chapter, which are revocable at Pleasure by the same Authority. Besides the Dean and Canons there are 101 Students in this College, who are yearly elected from *Westminster* School on the 26th of *April*, resembling the *Demy's*, or half Fellows, of *Magdalen*; for they have annual Stipends, but nothing to do with the Government of the College; and including Noblemen, Gentlemen Commoners and other Members of this Society, they amounted to 247 in the Year 1733, being their

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last publick Act, tho' I am inform'd they are not quite so many at present.

Cardinal *Wolfey* may well be deem'd the Founder of this College, tho' King *Henry VIII.* has the Honour of it; for the Cardinal not only laid the Design, but endow'd it with larger Revenues than the King afterwards suffer'd the College to enjoy, and the Cardinal procur'd from the Pope two Bulls in the Years 1524 and 1525, for the suppressing the Priory of St. *Fridesuide* in *Oxford*, and forty more of the lesser Monasteries, and transferring their Lands to the Use of his intended College in *Oxford*, and another he was about to erect at *Ipswich*, the Place of his Nativity; and on the 13th of *July*, 1525, he obtained the royal Charter of Foundation, empowering him to build the said College at *Oxford*, on the same Ground the Priory of St. *Fridesuide* stood, and to endow this and the College at *Ipswich* with the Revenues of the suppress'd Monasteries; the said College at *Oxford* to have the Name of *Cardinal College*, and be govern'd by a Dean and Secular Canons, and dedicated to the Honour of the *Holy Trinity*, the blessed Virgin *Mary*, St. *Fridesuide* and *All-Saints*. The Foundation Stone of this College was laid on the 15th of *July*, 1525; but the Cardinal being adjudg'd to have incurr'd a Premunire in acting by the Pope's Authority; in the Year 1529, his

his Majesty was pleased to seize on this College, and all the Lands which had been settled upon it, under Pretence of their being forfeited to the Crown, which was surely a very great Piece of Injustice and Oppression, the Cardinal's Name being only used in the Grant of these Lands in Trust, and for the Use of the Society. His Majesty might, with as much Justice, have claim'd the Lands belonging to all the Bishopricks and Ecclesiastical Preferments in the Kingdom; since all the Bishops and Clergy were adjudged to have incurr'd a Premunire about the same time for submitting to the Pope's Authority.

The King retain'd the Lands and Revenues of this College in his Possession (or assign'd them to some of his Courtiers, who enjoy'd the Profits of them) until the Year 1532, when, at the Instance of *Cromwell*, and some others, who had been educated under the Cardinal, he granted Letters Patent, dated *July* 18, 1532, whereby he founded a new College on the Site of the former, to which he gave the Name of King *Henry* the VIIIth's College, dedicating it to the Honour of the *Holy Trinity*, the blessed Virgin *Mary*, and the Holy Virgin *St. Fridesuide*, endowing it with Lands of the Value of 2000 *l. per Annum*, for the Maintenance of a Dean and twelve Canons. However in the Year 1545, the King
thought

thought fit to suppress the same again. Whereupon this Foundation, as well as the Bishoprick of *Ousney* in *Oxford*, lately erected by him, was surrender'd into the Hands of certain Commissioners to his Majesty's Use by *John Oliver*, the new Dean, and five of the Canons, who were turn'd out, and reduced to the extreamest Poverty, till the King thought fit to allow each of them a small Pension.

The following Year 1546, the King thought fit by his Letters Patent to transfer the Episcopal See from *Ousney* to this College, and constitute the Church of *St. Frideswide*, the Cathedral Church, by the Name of *Christ-Church* (*Ecclesia Christi Cathedralis Oxon. ex Fundatione Regis Henrici Octavi*) and by the same Letters Patent, appointed the first and last Bishop of *Ousney*, the first Bishop of this Church, granting to *Richard Cox* the Dean, *William Haynes* and seven Canons more, and their Successors for ever, the Site of the aforesaid College, together with *Peckwater* Inn, and other Lands and Tenements of the Value of 2000 *l. per Ann.* which he granted to the Dean and Canons, for the perpetual Maintenance of eight petty Canons, one Postillator, eight Clerks or Chaplains, a Master and eight other Choristers, and an Organist; and out of the same reserv'd to three publick Professors in the University of *Oxford*, viz. The Professors

feffors of Divinity, *Greek* and *Hebrew* 40 *l.* *per Annum* each; to sixty Students or Scholars 8 *l.* *per Annum* each; to a Schoolmaster 20 *l.* *per Annum*; and to an Usher 10 *l.* *per Annum*. ---- Queen *Elizabeth* added afterwards forty Students to be chosen out of *Westminster* School, who were to receive 6 *l.* *per Annum* each. In the Year 1663, *William Thurston* of *London*, by his Will, gave the Sum of 800 *l.* to *King's College* in *Oxford* for the Education of one Scholar therein, which was adjudged to belong to *Christ's College*, after a Suit at Law with *Oriel College* (which insisted on being a Royal Foundation, as well as *Brazen Nose*) whereupon another Scholar was added, which makes the Number of Students or Scholars of this College to be 101 compleat.

Several other considerable Benefactions have been given to this College since by private Hands, particularly *Richard Busby*, S. T. P. formerly Student of this House, and afterwards Master of *Westminster* School, and Prebendary of *Westminster*, founded two Lectures here, one for the Oriental Languages, and the other for the Mathematicks, which he handsomely endow'd.

Cardinal *Wolfey* falling under the King's Displeasure, for opposing his Divorce from *Catherine of Spain*, or at least not promoting it with that Zeal his Majesty expected, and being adjudged guilty of a Premunire, as
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has been intimated already, had not an Opportunity of finishing the Buildings of this College in the manner he design'd: He erected no more than the East and South Side of the grand Quadrangle, and good Part of that magnificent Front on the West Side of it, and had just laid the Foundation of a Chapel on the North Side. He proposed to have erected a Cloyster about the Quadrangle, but his Disgrace put an End to all his Views. In the Year 1638, the North Side of the grand Quadrangle was begun, but before the Shell was well finished, the Civil Wars broke out, whereupon it was demolish'd by the Rebels, and the Timber serv'd the Soldiers for Fuel: But on the Restoration, this Part of the Building was begun again by the Direction and Encouragement of Dr. *Fell*, then Dean of the College, and finish'd *Anno* 1665, together with that magnificent Staircase leading up to the Hall. The new Building, which looks towards the Meadows, also carries the Name of *Fell's* Building, and, I presume, was erected by him. *Peckwater* Inn was much enlarged also by the Deans *Duppa* and *Fell*; but soon after the Revolution, when Dr. *Henry Aldrich* was Dean, the whole Quadrangle was pull'd down and rebuilt in that elegant Manner we see it at this Day by the large Benefactions of Dr. *Ratcliff*,

Ratcliff, the Lord *Charles Somerset*, Sir *Edward Hannes*, Knt. and other Benefactors.

This College has no other Visitor but the King, or those commission'd by him. King *Henry VIII.* when he refounded it, having appointed no special Visitor.

Pembroke College is situated near St. *Al-* *Pembroke*
date's Church, opposite to *Christ-Church*, and College.
consists of two small Courts of old Building; unless it be the Chapel and the Master's House, there is little that demands our Attention here; and indeed the Chapel is a fine Piece of Architecture (but not large) built of hewn Stone, and extremely well finish'd without and within: The marble Pillars, particularly at the Altar, are exceeding beautiful: The Master's Lodge, which joins to the College on the North, is a handsome, modern Edifice, and has the Appearance of a Gentleman's House, as much as any Thing in Town.

This College, formerly call'd *Broadgate* Hall, was founded *Anno* 1624 by *Thomas Tisdale* and *Richard Wightwick*, S. T. B. for the Study of Divinity, Civil and Canon Law, Physick, &c.

The Society to consist of one Master, ten Fellows and ten Scholars; the Charter of Incorporation expressing it to be of the Foundation of King *James*, at the Charges and Expences of *Thomas Tisdale* and *Richard*
N *Wightwick*:

The PRESENT STATE

Wightwick: A Charter of Mortmain also was granted, empowering the College to purchase Lands of the Value of 700 *l. per Annum*; four of *Tisdale's* Fellows to be chosen out of his Relations, and the rest to come from *Abingdon* Free-School.

As to *Wightwick's* Benefaction, he founded three Fellowships and four Scholarships, two of the Fellows, and two Scholars to be of his Name or Kindred, and the other three from *Abingdon* School.

King *Charles I.* granted to this Society the perpetual Advowson of *St. Aldate's* Church, and certain Lands for the Maintenance of one Fellow to be chosen from *Guernsey* or *Jersey*.

Dr. George Morley, Bishop of *Winchester*, founded five Scholarships for the Natives of *Jersey* and *Guernsey*.

The Chancellor of *Oxford* is Visitor.

The present Members are one Master, thirteen Fellows, twenty-three Scholars: The whole Number of Students usually about ninety.

Worcester
College.

Worcester College is pleasantly situated on an Eminence just above the River *Isis*, and the Meadows, at the Extremity of the western Suburb. This College is now rebuilding, and the Case of their Library actually finish'd, which is a magnificent Edifice, 100 Feet in Length, and built of hewn

hewn Stone over an elegant Cloyster supported by Pillars: According to the Plan proposed, this College is to consist of one spacious Quadrangle, 130 Feet long, and 115 broad, which is to have the Library and Cloyster on the East; the Chambers of the Fellows and Scholars on the North and South, and the Gardens, which are to lie on a Descent to the River on the West; the Apartment of the Provost is to be at the North-west Angle; the Chapel and Hall to be in the Front of the College, the first on the right, and the other on the left, at the Entrance of the Gate, and to extend Westward to the Library; the Dimensions of the Chapel and Hall to be the same, viz. each of them to be 50 Feet in Length, and 25 in Breadth; from whence it is easy to foresee, that this College will enjoy not only the pleasantest Situation, but be one of the most elegant Structures in this University.

This College was founded *Anno* 1714 by Sir *Thomas Cooksey*, Bart. for a Provost, six Fellows, and six Scholars.

It was anciently call'd *Glocester* Hall from the *Benedictine Monks* of *Glocester*, who educated their Novices here in Academical Learning. On the Suppression of religious Houses this was vested in King *Henry VIII.* who granted it to Dr. *Robert King*, the first Bishop of *Oxford*, for a Palace for him and his Successors, and the Bishop remain'd in

Possession thereof, as long as the See was at *Ousney*.

It was purchased afterwards by *St. John's College*, and call'd *St. John Baptist's Hall*, a Fellow of *St. John's* being Principal of it, and in 1714 was converted into a College by a Charter obtain'd from *Queen Anne*.

There have been very considerable Benefactions lately given to this Society, which will probably enable them to rebuild this College after the elegant Model proposed.

The present Members are six Fellows and six Scholars: The whole Number of Students about thirty.

Hartford College.

Hart Hall was this present Year 1740 converted into a College, and endow'd by the Rev. Dr. *Newton* the first Principal, who has given it the Name of *Hartford College*. This House is situated in *Cat-Street*, opposite to the Schools, and consists of one Court of old Buildings, which are intended to be pull'd down, and re-edified in an elegant manner, and great Additions made to them by the Founder, who proposes to lay out a considerable Part of his Fortune in building and endowing this College. The Hall was founded by *Walter Stapleton*, Bishop of *Exeter*, Anno 1314, and was an Appendant to *Exeter College*, which occasioned the Rectors of that House for some time to oppose

pose the converting of this Hall into a College.

There are still five other Halls remain-
ing, which are not endow'd or incorporated,
for this it is that distinguishes a Hall from a
College in *Oxford*. The first is no more
than an Hostell or Inn, where the Students
hire their Chambers of the Principal, and
pay for their Diet; the other consists of a
Head, Fellows and Scholars incorporated by
the King's Charter, and endow'd with
Lands, &c. which yield the Fellows and
Scholars a certain Revenue, and defrays all
the Expences of their Commons, and every
College has its Statutes, which the Mem-
bers are oblig'd to obey by their Oaths at
their Admittance, and may be punish'd or
expell'd for not observing of them. Halls.

There was not 600 Years ago any such
Thing as a College according to the Notion
we have of these Houses at present in either
University; they were all Halls or Hostells
(Hostles, as the *English* pronounce the Word)
and hir'd most commonly of the Townsmen
by the Students to perform their Exercises
in: The Students for the most part lodging
or boarding in the Townsmens Houses; but
at this Day, the Students lodge and diet in
their respective Halls, and take an Oath to
obey the Statutes and Customs of the Hall,
which Statutes are made and alter'd from
time

time to time by the Chancellor and University, who have the Nomination of all the Principals, unless the Head of *Edmund Hall*, who is appointed by *Queen's College*.

Before the Reformation several Abbies and religious Houses had their Halls in *Oxford*, for the Instruction of their Novices in the liberal Arts; but these were all suppress'd with the Monasteries they belong'd to: Some of them however were purchased by Founders, who erected Colleges on the Sites of such Houses, particularly *Durham Hall*, now *Trinity College*; *Glocester Hall*, now *Worcester College*; and *Broadgate Hall*, now *Pembroke College*.

H A L L S.

Halls.

There are now but five Halls remaining in *Oxford*, viz. *St. Alban Hall*, *Edmund Hall*, *St. Mary Hall*, *New-Inn Hall*, and *Maudlin Hall*.

St. Alban
Hall.

St. Alban Hall is situated in *St. John's Parish*, and adjoyns to *Merton College* on the East. There was very lately no more than one Member, besides the Principal, in this House.

Edmund
Hall.

Edmund Hall is situated in *Queen's College Lane*, opposite to *Queen's College*, on which it is dependant, and has, besides the Principal, about twenty Students.

New-Inn

New-Inn Hall is situated at the West End <sup>*New-Inn*
Hall.</sup> of the City near the Castle, and had not more than one Student in it lately, besides the Principal: It is a dependant on *New* College.

St. Mary Hall is situated opposite to *St. Mary* <sup>*St. Mary*
Hall.</sup> *Mary's* Church, and has very much the Appearance of a private House. There is however a handsome Hall and Chapel belonging to it, and some elegant new Buildings design'd; and there are, besides the Principal and Vice-principal, about thirty Students in this House.

Maudlin Hall is an ancient Building of <sup>*Maudlin*
Hall.</sup> no great Beauty, situated a little to the Westward of *Maudlin* College: To which several Benefactors have left considerable Exhibitions. There are in this House, besides the Principal, near forty Students. These Halls are generally small, and have very little to be admir'd in their Architecture; but the Students live in them, like Gentlemen in a private Family. There is not so much of that abject Submission and Ceremony observ'd, as in Houses that are incorporated.

C H A P. IV.

Contains an Abstract of the History of the University of Oxford.

Antiquity
of the Uni-
versity.

AS to the Antiquity of the *English* Universities, it is probable there were some such Nurseries or Seminaries for the Education of Students design'd for Ecclesiastical Offices and Employments establish'd here soon after the Introduction of Christianity into the Island, even in the Time of the *Romans*, especially after the Empire became Christian, and that Religion was protected and favour'd by the Magistrates, as it was in the fourth Century; for Universities were antiently stil'd the Schools and Seminaries of the Church, as they are at this Day: We find the old Abbies and Monasteries sent their Novices to such Seminaries to be instructed in Arts, and there were several such Halls or Schools belonging to religious Houses in *Oxford*. But whatever there might be establish'd of this Nature here, during the Dominion of the *Romans*, the *Pagan Saxons*, an illiterate and barbarous People, who succeeded them in the Government of this Island, destroy'd, leaving no manner of Records or Memorials of the Times, which preceded them: However, when the *Saxons* were civiliz'd, and became Christians, such Schools or Seminaries of Religion

Religion were again instituted for the Study of Divinity and the liberal Arts; one of the first whereof was probably fix'd at *Oxford*; because it is said King *Alfred* restored Learning here in his Reign; but whether he founded or restored those Schools, it is generally agreed, that the same Prince erected one or more Halls on or near the Ground, where *University* College now stands, about the Year 872, and endow'd the same with a Revenue, issuing out of his Exchequer (but at the Will of the Prince). There are those that relate he gave one Sixth of his Revenues towards the Maintenance of Students at *Oxford*; tho' *Fabian* avers, that this Prince only erected some Grammar Schools here; and indeed such Schools seem to have been more necessary at this time than Academies for teaching the liberal Arts: For it is generally held, that there was scarce a Layman in *South-Britain* that could read *English*, or an Ecclesiastick that understood *Latin* at this time. Dr. *Newton's* Account of the Original of this University is this,

" That in ancient Times, certain learned
 " Men resided in the City of *Oxford*, and
 " there taught those Arts and Sciences,
 " which are call'd liberal to such as were
 " disposed to learn them. The Reputation
 " of their Skill, and the fine Situation of
 " the Place, invited such a general Resort
 " of Scholars to it from all Parts, that it

Alfred erects some Schools at *Oxford* 886.

Bromp. Chr. Coll. 814.

P. 210.

“ soon obtain’d the Name of an University.
 “ The Citizens, for the better Accommo-
 “ dation of the Students, from whose Re-
 “ sidence amongst them they receiv’d great
 “ Benefit, let out such of their Houses, as
 “ they did not themselves inhabit, to the
 “ Teachers of these Arts; who again
 “ lett out the several Rooms thereof to
 “ their respective Scholars, as to Under-
 “ Tenants. Such Houses, from the time
 “ they were applied to the Purposes of li-
 “ beral Education, were call’d Halls; and
 “ the several Governors of these volun-
 “ tary Societies, Principals of Halls. Long
 “ before any of these Halls were converted
 “ into Colleges, the University, by Pre-
 “ scription, used a publick Seal, receiv’d
 “ Lands, was possess’d of Customs, and
 “ made Laws for the Government of its
 “ own Body, as a Corporation.” The
 Schools establish’d at *Oxford* and *Cambridge*
 by King *Alfred* and his Son *Edward* were
 entirely burnt and destroy’d by the *Danes*
 about the Year 1000, and all Learning ba-
 nish’d from thence for many Years. *Edward*
 the Confessor restor’d the Students to their
 Seats and Privileges about the Year 1050,
 according to some Writers; while others
 assure us, that the Universities lay in a mi-
 serable Condition, almost expiring, till the
 Time of the Conquest *Anno* 1066: Nor
 does the Conqueror seem to have been any
 great

great Friend to *Oxford*: It is agreed, that he commanded *Robert D'Oily*, whom he made Governor of *Oxford*, to build a Castle there, and fortify the Town, in order to keep the University in Subjection. Some relate, that both the Scholars and Citizens took up Arms against the Conqueror, after he was settled in the Throne, that he be-^{Knighton, Holingsbed and Speed,} sieg'd and took the Town by Storm, and kill'd great Numbers of the Students; and^{say it was Exon. not Oxon. that} that the Exhibitions granted by King *Alfred*^{was be-} out of the Exchequer were thereupon with-^{sieg'd.} drawn, the Scholars having no other Subsistence than what they obtained from the Benevolence of their *English* Friends. They were suffer'd indeed to pursue their Studies, as well as they could, at their own Expences; but had neither settled Revenues or Houses to perform their Exercises in, unless such as they hir'd of the Townsmen, or belong'd to some Abbies or Convents, till about 200 Years after the Conquest. *William*, however in the latter End of his Reign, seems to have had a more favourable Opinion of this University, by sending his Son Prince *Henry*, surnam'd *Beauclerk* (afterwards *Henry I.*) to be educated here; tho' this is a Fact the *Cantabrigians* dispute; for they affirm, that Prince *Henry* was educated in *Cambridge*.

William

II. 1087.

William Rufus is more taken Notice of for depopulating Towns and Countries to make room for his Sports (or rather to distress an Invader) than for his Encouragement of Learning; and indeed he was great Part of his Reign engaged in War to secure his Possession of the Throne, so that it could not be expected he should apply himself much to the Encouragement of Learning.

Henry I.

1100.

His Successor *Henry I.* however, is allow'd to have been a great Patron of the Universities, especially that of *Oxford*; for here he built a Palace, call'd *Beaumont*, and resided some time amongst them, during whose long Reign it is observed many learned Men flourish'd at *Oxford*.

Stephen

1135.

King *Stephen*, on the contrary, was no Friend to *Oxford*, nor could it be expected he should, as they adhered to the Empress *Maud*, who was besieg'd in this City from *Michaelmas* to *Christmas*, when she made her Escape from thence in a great Snow in the Night-time, cloathing herself in white to avoid Discovery, and *Stephen* taking the Town afterwards by Storm, laid it in Ashes, for the Protection it had afforded his Rival, which occasioned a Dispersion of the Students.

Henry II.

1154.

Nor was *Henry II.* any great Friend to this University, notwithstanding their adhering to his Mother the Empress.

But

But from *Richard I.* who was born here, they received many Favours. *Richard I.*
1189.

King *John* was not in good Terms, either with the Clergy or Universities, and it is related, that a Woman happening to be kill'd accidentally by a Student of *Oxford* in this Reign, who made his Escape, the King order'd three innocent Scholars to be hang'd for it without Trial: Whereupon the rest of the Students abandon'd the University, retiring to *Cambridge*, *Reading* and other Places, and did not return again till the next Reign. *John*
1199. *Stow* 168.

In the Reign of *Henry III.* his Son, this University flourish'd to that Degree, that it is said there were no less than 30,000 Students in it; tho' it is probable there is a Cypher too much added, and instead of 30,000, it should have been 3000; for I do not find there has ever been many more than 3000 Students in this University, either before or since at one time; and that the usual Number is something more than 2000: If there ever were 30,000, they must include all that were alive in any Part of the Kingdom, who had ever been of this University (whose Names might remain upon their Books). *Henry III.*
1216.

In the 18th Year of *Henry III.* there happened a Skirmish here between the Servants

1234.

vants and Attendants of the Pope's Legate, who resided in *Ousney* Abby, and the Scholars; in which a Kinsman, some say a Brother of the Legates, was kill'd, and the Legate with Difficulty escap'd out of the Abby, and fled to the King at *Wallingford*: The Students it seems had received some Affront from the Legate's Servants, when they came to attend him, and a poor Scholar being scalded by the Legate's Cook, a Gownsmen thereupon shot the Cook thro' the Body, the rest forcing their Way into the Abby, and threatening the Life of the Legate himself, whom they charg'd with Usury and Extortion (and indeed the principal Business of these Agents of the Court of *Rome* was to fleece and pilfer the Clergy and Universities) but the Legate escaping to *Wallingford*, as has been related, procur'd a Body of Troops to be sent to *Oxford* to bring off his Servants, and apprehend the most notorious Rioters, whereupon about forty of the latter were taken, and sent up to *London* in Carts; however, on the Intercession of the Bishops, and their submitting to the Penances enjoin'd them, the Legate absolv'd them, and releas'd the University from the Interdict, under which he had laid it.

There arose afterwards Disputes in the same Reign between the Students and Townsmen concerning the Rent of the Halls

Halls and Lodgings, which the Scholars hir'd of the Townsmen; for as yet there were no Colleges or Halls for their Exercises and Disputations, or even Chambers for the Students, but what they hir'd of the Townsmen, who used to raise their Rents at Pleasure, and oppress the Scholars by their Extortions, this occasioned frequent Quarrels between the Gownsmen and Townsmen, which sometimes came to Blows; whereupon it was at length agreed, that two Students and two Citizens should ascertain the Rents of every Hall and Chamber, lett to any Member of the University, which the Townsmen not observing, the University obtained a Writ from King *Henry III.* commanding the Mayor and Bayliffs to see the abovesaid Agreement observ'd, and directing, that if any Controversy arose between the Citizens and Scholars about the Rent of the Halls and Chambers lett to Scholars, the Chancellor should decide it; and that these Rents should be settled once in five Years: These Quarrels, it is probable, gave rise to the founding of Colleges, which were soon after begun by the Patrons and Encouragers of Learning: The first of these Houses, which were erected and endow'd with Lands and certain Revenues, and establish'd by Royal Charters, were those of *University, Merton* and *Baliol* in the latter

End

End of the Reign of *Henry III.* and the
Edward I. Beginning of *Edward I.* and the first
of these that obtained a Charter of In-
*1284. corporation is held to be *Baliol* *; though
University and *Merton* were erected before
it; from whence it appears, that the oldest
Colleges in *Oxford* have been erected and
endow'd within less than 500 Years; and
whoever insinuates, that this University
(constituted as it is at present) is of a longer
Standing, is, I conceive, under a Mistake;
for what Resemblance is there between the
Times preceeding these (when the Scholars
lived in the Townsmens Houses at their
own Expence, or upon precarious Exhi-
bitions, and consequently could not be un-
der any regular Governments) and the pre-
sent, when they reside in Colleges, which
are their Freehold, under their respective
Heads and Governors, and have all manner
of Exercises almost perform'd within their
own Walls, subsisting at the same time on
the Rents of Lands settled on them by their
Founders and subsequent Benefactors. But
to proceed, the Differences between the
University and City had not been long com-
posed, before there arose some childish Mis-
understandings among the Scholars them-
selves. The *Scots*, *Welch* and northern *En-
glish*, forming themselves in a Party against
the Natives of *South-Britain*, which grew
to such an Height, that both Sides drew
out

out into the Field, and fought a pitch'd Battle; in which many were kill'd and wounded on both Sides; but at length the Northern Gentlemen, and the *Welch*, obtained a compleat Victory over those of the South: However, when they came to cool, both Sides reflecting how much they had incurr'd the Royal Displeasure, agreed to submit themselves to his Majesty, and make him a Present of 4000 Marks: They also prepar'd a Present for Prince *Edward* and the Queen; but the King answer'd, he would accept none of their Money, he valued the Life of a Subject more than any Thing they could offer him; and whether he was provok'd by this Outrage, or any subsequent Offence, we find King *Edward I.* in a manner banish'd the Students from *Oxford*; and when they fled to *Northampton*, where the King besieg'd some of the Chiefs of the Barons (for this happened during the Barons Wars) the Scholars engag'd in the Service of his Enemies, and distinguished themselves by the Sallies they made upon the Besiegers, which so exasperated his Majesty, that he declared he would hang every one of the Students; however, Intercession being made by some great Men for their Lives, when he took the Place he thought fit to spare the Scholars, and gave them Leave to return to *Oxford*, only setting a Fine upon some of the most obnoxious;

P

and

and as Learning never flourishes in time of War, especially during Civil Broils; so it is observ'd, that Learning has seldom been at a lower Ebb than it was at the latter End of the Reign of *Edward II.* during the War between the Crown and the Barons; and tho' he confirm'd all the Privileges granted the Universities by his Predecessors, he sometimes took the Part of the preaching Fryars against them, who pretended to be Exempt from the Chancellor's Jurisdiction.

Edw. II.
1307.

1315.

Pope *Boniface*, about the Year 1301, confirm'd by his Bull all Royal Charters granted to the University, exempting it from the Authority of Archbishops and Bishops, and all ordinary Jurisdiction.

Edw. III. In the Reign of *Edward III.* many of the Scholars, on some Disgust, retir'd to *Stamford*, and erected a kind of University there, but were commanded by the King to return, his Majesty declaring, that he would not suffer Universities to be held in any other Places, than where they were already settled, and to prevent the like Recess, a Statute was made, obliging every Candidate for a Degree to swear he would never read or attend a Reader at *Stamford*.

Riot on St.
Scholastica's
Day,

The most fatal Skirmish between the Scholars and Townsmen of *Oxford* happened on *St. Scholastica's Day*, February 10, 1354, which

which began in this manner: Some Scholars ^{Feb. 10,} finding Fault with their Wine at a Tavern, ^{1354.} the Vintner, instead of changing it, re- ^{29 Ed. III.} turn'd faucy Language, for which they broke his Head with the Flaggon, whereupon the Vintner complain'd to his Neighbours, who agreed to ring the Alarm Bell at *Carfax*, immediately great Numbers of the Townsmen assembling, attack'd all the Scholars they met with in the Streets, and even the Chancellor himself, who came to suppress the Riot, whereupon several Scholars arm'd themselves, and rung St. *Mary's* Bell, and their Brethren resorting to them they defended themselves in that Church till Night put an End to the Combat.

The next Day the Chancellor caused Proclamation to be made both at *Carfax* and St. *Mary's*, prohibiting both the Scholars and Townsmen carrying Arms; but the Scholars had no sooner laid down theirs, than the Townsmen, encourag'd by their Bailiffs, fell upon the Scholars, kill'd one of them, and wounded several more; whereupon the Scholars rung St. *Mary's* Bell again, and having arm'd themselves, maintain'd their Ground against the Enemy, till the Townsmen calling in 2000 Country People to their Assistance, over-power'd the Scholars, kill'd and wounded great Numbers of them, throwing their dead Bodies into Bogs and Dunghills, and some of them they left un-

buried in the Streets: After which they plunder'd and burnt fourteen of their Halls or Hostells. The Bishop of *Lincoln* being acquainted with this Outrage, laid the Town under an Interdict, and all Religious Offices were suspended for several Months; the King also seized on the Liberties of the City; from whence the Scholars fled, and the University was in a manner dissolv'd for about two Years. The Mayor and Bailiffs were committed to the Tower of *London*, and the Sheriff of the County imprison'd for not protecting the Chancellor and Students. The University resign'd all her Liberties and Franchises into the King's Hands, as did the Corporation, with all their Lands, Goods and Charters, submitting to the King's Mercy.

His Majesty some time after was pleased to acquit the Scholars of being the Authors of this Riot, and commanded the Townsmen to restore to the Scholars all the Goods they had plunder'd and robb'd them off, to pay the University the Sum of 250 *l.* for the Damage it had sustain'd, leaving those, who were charg'd with murdering or wounding any of the Students, to be tried at the next Assizes; but pardon'd the rest, on condition they should furnish the Scholars with Provisions for one Year at their return to *Oxford*. They were also commanded to celebrate a certain Number of Masses annually

ally on St. *Scholastica's* Day, for the Souls of the Scholars that were kill'd, and their Magistrates and Burgeſſes were commanded, each of them, to offer a Penny annually at the High Altar in St. *Mary's* Church, and ſwear not to invade the Rights of the University, but to obey the Chancellor and Vice-chancellor as their Superiors, who were from henceforth ſolely to ſuperintend the Aſſize of Bread, Wine and Ale, to puniſh Offenders, regulate Weights and Meaſures, and to take Cognizance of Foreſtallers and Regrators: The Chancellor was alſo impower'd to puniſh and imprifon Townſmen, as well as Scholars, for carrying Arms, and to cauſe the Streets to be cleans'd and pav'd, and the Sheriff of the County was required, on entering on his Office, to ſwear to protect the Students from all Outrages, and to defend their Rights and Privileges for the future.

The Townſmen, however, preſuming to diſturb the Scholars in the Enjoyment of thoſe Privileges, which were granted them by the aboveſaid Charter, the King order'd the ſame to be reinforc'd, and commanded the Sheriff annually to tender an Oath to the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgeſſes, to obey the Chancellor, and defend the Privileges of the University, which they have been oblig'd to do ever ſince.

The

The Universities, as well as the Secular Clergy, met with great Disturbances about this time from the several Orders of Friars, who pretending to be Exempt from all manner of Jurisdiction, but the Pope's, protected Criminals, and inticed great Numbers of Students to quit the University, and enter themselves of their respective Orders, authorising them to preach and perform divine Offices, without qualifying themselves for Degrees, as the Statutes of the University requir'd.

Edw. III. About the Year 1345, Dr. *John Wickliff*,
 1345.
Wickliff Warden of *Canterbury* College, preach'd
 the Refor- and disputed against the Errors of the Church
 mer. of *Rome*, whose Opinions being defended by many in the University; the Pope publish'd a Bull, wherein his Holiness reprehends the Chancellor for suffering such Heresies to be taught and countenanced in the University.

Edw. III. In the same Reign there was an Insurrection of the younger Students against the Masters, in which some were kill'd, and more wounded; and this Tumult was no sooner pacify'd, but great Misunderstandings arose among the Masters themselves about the Election of a Chancellor, which the King himself it seems could not compose without the Assistance of the Pope, who excommunicated the Authors of these Disturbances. Another Difference happened in this Reign between the Chancellor,
 Doctors

Doctors in Divinity, and Masters of Arts on one Part, and the Doctors and Batchelors of Civil and Canon Law on the other, occasioned by some Statutes made against the latter, in Relation to the time of taking their Degrees, which the King determined in Favour of the Lawyers.

In the Year 1377, *Anno 1 Richard II.* Rich. II.
1377. several Doctors and Masters were convicted of Heresy for disputing in Defence of *Wickliff's* Doctrines. This King confirm'd all the Privileges granted to the University by his Predecessors, and remitted a Subsidy of 4 *d. per* Head, which *Edward III.* had imposed on every Clerk Resident in the University without a Benefice: He also accommodated the Differences between the University and the Friars, to the Satisfaction of the former. In this Reign a Statute was made by the University, *That no one should be an Inceptor in Divinity, who had not first compleated his Exercise in the Liberal Arts;* for before this, Doctors of Divinity studied only in that Faculty, and were ignorant of Arts and Sciences, and were therefore counted inferior to the Artists, any illiterate Person almost being admitted to the Degree of a Doctor in Divinity, and to the highest Honours in the Church.

His Majesty granted the University a Charter *Anno 1391*, whereby he confirm'd
to

the Chancellor all personal Suits, where one of the Litigants should be a Scholar: His Majesty also inhibited all Scholastick Exercises on a Complaint of the Chancellor, that one *Henry Crumpe* had defended *Lollardy* (Heresy) in his publick Lectures, commanding *Crumpe* to appear and answer the Offence before the Privy Council, and it is said *Crumpe* afterwards renounc'd those Opinions.

Upon a Dispute in this Reign, whether the University was subject to the Visitation of the Archbishop, the King gave it in Favour of the Archbishop against himself; tho' the Pope by his Bull had exempted the University from Archiepiscopal Visitation.

The University petitioning the King against papal Provisions, a Law was made for suppressing the same in this Reign; but still we find the Pope disposing of Benefices and other Ecclesiastical Preferments to Foreigners and others in the succeeding Reign of *Henry IV.* to the Prejudice of the true Patrons, and great Discouragement of the *English* Students in the Universities, who thereupon petitioned the King to put the Laws in Execution against such Provisors or Ecclesiasticks as accepted of their Preferments from the Pope; but as *Henry IV.* was obliged to the Holy See to maintain his Usurpation, I question, whether the Universities were relieved from those Encroachments of the

Henry IV.

1399.

the Pope: However, the King confirm'd the Privileges of the University, and something enlarg'd the Limits of their Jurisdiction, viz. Without the East Gate, as far as St. *Bartholomew's* Hospital; on the West to *Botley*; on the North to *Godstow*; and on the South to *Bagley* Wood; and at the same time remitted a Duty of five Pounds *per Annum*, which the Chancellor used to pay for the Assize of Bread and Beer, &c.

On the other hand he compell'd the University to submit to an Archiepiscopal Visitation, as his Predecessor had done.

Great Disturbances were rais'd in this University in the Reign of *Henry V.* Anno *Henry V.* 1413, by *Irish* Scholars, who committed 1413. all manner of Outrages in the Night-time: Whereupon the King commanded all *Irish* Men to depart from thence, unless they were Graduates, or of some religious Order, that had a Right to remain at *Oxford*, and would give Security for keeping the Peace. It was provided also, that no *Irishman* should be Head of any Inn or Hall, or presume to come into either of the *English* Universities without Testimonials from the Lord Lieutenant of that Kingdom, on Pain of High Treason: However, both the *Irish* and *Welsh* sometime after obtain'd the King's Leave to reside here, and were again banish'd

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nish'd for their riotous and tumultuous Behaviour.

1417.
Graduates
only capa-
ble of Liv-
ings.

In the same Reign, *Anno* 1417, a Synod being held at *London*; both Universities by their Proctors complain'd, that the Students liv'd to be old Men in their Colleges for Want of Preferment, either on Account of Papal Provisions, or preferring Ecclesiasticks that had not taken their Degrees; whereupon a Constitution was made, that none should hold a Benefice of sixty Marks *per Annum*, who had not taken his Doctor's Degree in Divinity, Law or Physick, and none should hold a Living of fifty Marks *per Annum*, who was not a Bachelor of Divinity; and only Masters of Arts should be capable of a Benefice of forty Marks *per Annum*.

Henry VI.
1430.

In the Reign of *Henry VI.* *Anno* 1430, we find the Townsmen oppress'd the University by their Extortions, and were many of them discommon'd, or interdicted all Commerce with the University on that Account; but upon their Submission and humble Application to the Heads, they were restor'd to Favour.

1442.

In the same Reign *Anno* 1442, a Dispute arose between the Masters of Arts, and those of Grammar, which soon after put an End to the Grammar Line or Faculty itself.

Seven Years afterwards, 1448, there was a Contention between the University and the City about the Persons entitled to the Privilege of the University: The Townsmen insisting, that the Booksellers, Barbers, &c. whom the University took into their Protection and matriculated, ought not to have the Benefit of those Privileges; but this was determin'd, at length, in Favour of the University.

N. B. Henry V. and Henry VI. were both educated at *Oxford*, according to *Wood*; tho' it is certain the latter built *King's College* in *Cambridge*, and *Eaton* near *Windsor*; and is said to have been a great Benefactor to *New College*, *All Souls*, and *Maudlin* in *Oxon*. But notwithstanding he was such an Encourager of Learning, it is observed, the Universities declined in his Reign; there not being more than a thousand Students in *Oxford*, which Mr. *Wood* ascribes to the Want of Preferments, which were generally appropriated to Cathedral and Collegiate Churches, and to the Bishops withdrawing their Exhibitions, which they used to bestow on the Education of the Scholars; for the Bishops, he observes, who formerly us'd to reside at their Dioceses, were now become Courtiers, and leaving their Flocks to shift for themselves, spent their Revenues in Luxury: Papal Provisions also were so frequent and scandalous, that Pope *Eugene*, he

observes, conferr'd the Deanery of a Church by Way of Provision on a Person not in Orders, who gave him upwards of a thousand Marks for the Purchase of it; and so great, says the same Writer, was the Corruption of those Times from the Avarice of the Bishop's Servants, that Persons bought Holy Orders, who had never been matriculated in the University, while those, who had spent their whole Time there, were pass'd by: But there was still another Reason for the Decay of Learning, and of the University, the latter End of the Reign of *Henry VI.* besides those Mr. *Wood* has assign'd, namely the Wars between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*.

Edw. IV. King *Edward IV.* confirm'd all the Privileges granted to the University, *Anno 1461*, particularly that of the Cognizance of all Causes and Suits, where one of the Parties was a Scholar, and the Charter of *Edward III.* concerning the Market, and this Prince was pleas'd to take upon him the Title of Protector of the University.

Pope *Sixtus IV.* about the same time confirm'd the Privileges of the University granted by his Predecessors, ratifying their Civil and Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, whereupon the Chancellor insisted he had an Apostolical Authority, and was not subject even to a Regal Visitation.

In

In the first Year of *Edward IV.* there Edw. IV. 1461. was such a Famine, that the Scholars obtained Leave of the Chancellor to go into the Country, and beg at Gentlemens Houses for a Subsistence.

The Art of printing was first brought in- Printing. to this University in the third Year of *Edward IV.* Anno 1464, by *William Caxton*, or rather by *Frederick Corfellis*, a Dutchman, whom he brought over from *Holland* with him, and several Books appear to have been printed at *Oxford* by this *Frederick*, particularly *Jerom's* Exposition of the Apostles Creed, Anno 1468, and *Egidius Romanus* of original Sin, Anno 1479.

King *Richard III.* during his short Reign, Rich. III. 1483. shewed himself a Patron of this University; he visited it in Person, and attended their Disputations; after which he confirm'd all their Privileges.

Learning is said to have been at a very Henry VII. 1485. low Ebb, and the Universities very thin in the Reign of *Henry VII.* which may be ascrib'd also to the Wars between the Houses of *York* and *Lancaster*, which were scarce compos'd till the latter End of this Reign.

Margaret, Countess of *Richmond* and *Derby*, the Mother of King *Henry VII.* however appeared a noble Patroness and Encourager of Learning in both Universities:
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In this she founded a Divinity Lecture, and gave Exhibitions to several poor Scholars; and in *Cambridge* she founded the Colleges of *Christ's*, and *St. John's*.

The learned *Erasmus Roterodamus* coming into *England* in the Year 1498, and visiting this University was well received and entertained here, where he revived the *Greek* Tongue, then almost lost.

Hen. VIII.

1509.

King *Henry VIII.* at his Accession, confirm'd the Privileges of the University, and in several Disputes between the University and Townsmen, at the Instance of *Wolsey*, constantly decided in Favour of the University.

Luther the
Reformer.

About the Year 1523, the *Lutheran* Doctrines began to spread here, and in no House more than in *Cardinal* College, where it was taught by some of the Junior Canons, who came from *Cambridge*; and particularly by one *John Clarke*, who was look'd upon as an Oracle by *Luther's* Disciples; but many of them were committed to Prison, and their Books publicly burnt.

One of the most trying Points in this Reign was the Controversy concerning the King's Divorce from Queen *Katherine*.

The Bishop of *Lincoln* was sent to *Oxford* with the King's Letters, requiring the University to send his Majesty their Determination,

mination, whether the marrying his Brother's Relict was defensible or not.

A Convocation being call'd thereupon, a Majority of the Doctors declared for the Negative; but the Masters of Arts being of another Opinion, the Meeting broke off abruptly. The King receiving Advice of this Transaction, sent a Letter under his own Hand, directed to the Vice-chancellor, the Doctors and Bachelors of Divinity (without mentioning the Regents) wherein he acquaints them how deeply he resented the Stubborness of the Masters of Art, declared, that they seem'd to him not to have liv'd long enough to qualify them with Capacity and Discretion for this Business; that they ought therefore to resign themselves to the Judgment of wiser Men, and be govern'd by the Precedent of the Doctors.

That, if they persevered in their Obstinacy, and gave their Sovereign any further Trouble, they should soon be made sensible of the ill Consequence, and understand it was not their best Way to provoke a Hornet's Nest.

Soon after this, Dr. *Bell* and *Longland*, Bishop of *Lincoln*, were dispatch'd to *Oxford* again; their Commission was to inform the Masters further upon the Case, and prevail with them to give Satisfaction; but this Attempt failing of Success, the Chancellor wrote

wrote down to refer the Decision to a Committee : This Expedient was at first refus'd.

Secretary *Fox* was afterwards sent to try his Interest ; but all was to no purpose : The Masters not being to be brought off, and ready to grow mutinous, the Chancellor sent the Heads a very extraordinary and unprecedented Order, he requir'd them to exclude the Masters from the Convocation, and to proceed to a Resolution without them ; and thus by a Committee of Doctors and Bachelors of Divinity, the Question was drawn up in Form, determined in the Negative, and the Seal of the University set to the Instrument.

The Historian *Wood* complains of this Management, and takes the Freedom to say, the Privileges of the University were plainly over-ruled ; and that the excluding the Masters from their Right of voting, made the Decree of no Force. That several Masters of the University, not thinking themselves bound by this Decision, preach'd openly against the Divorce.

This Relation of *Wood's* is censured by Bishop *Burnet*, who charges the *Oxford* Antiquary with giving Credit to a lying Story of *Sanders*, says, that *Wood* had either not seen, or not consider'd another Instrument, to which the University set their Seal. That the last mention'd Instrument was pass'd in a Convocation of all the Doctors
and

and Masters, Regents and Non-regents, that by a Vote pass'd in this Convocation, they all resign'd themselves to the Determination of a Committee; and that this Committee consisted only of Doctors and Bachelors of Divinity.

But Mr. *Collier* observes, that notwithstanding *Wood* is charg'd with relying on the Testimony of *Sanders*; it is plain, he makes no use of his Authority, but cites the Records of the University for the main of his Narrative. And as to the Instrument last mentioned, tho' Lord *Herbert* calls it an Original in one Place; yet, after the Recital of it, he calls it a blurr'd Copy, and says, *it is not probable it should be intended for the King in that manner*, which plainly proves, that in Lord *Herbert's* Opinion (whose Authority Bishop *Burnet* relies on) it could be no Original; possibly it might be only a rough Draught; and when the Doctors found the Masters would not pass it, they laid it aside without engrossing: However, they might think fit to preserve it to shew their Zeal for the King's Service. And for a further Defence of the *Oxford* Historian, Mr. *Collier* cites another remarkable Passage in Lord *Herbert's* Collections concerning this Matter: *The Words run thus.*

The King sent his Confessor *Longland* to the University of *Oxon*, to procure their Con-

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firmation

firmation of his Divorce from *Katherine*. The King join'd Entreaties and Threats: The Chancellor *Warham* advised them to follow the Truth, here *Seniores facile assenserunt Regi*; but the younger Sort (Regent Masters) flatly denied: The King sent more Threats, but moves them not; so that at last the Artists, or Regent Masters (altho' by the Statutes nothing can be done without them) are excluded, and the Matter committed only to Divines, who determined for the King, and his Majesty punished the Regents.

As the King had ask'd the Opinion of the University in Relation to his Divorce, and received a satisfactory Answer; so did he demand their Opinion afterwards of the Pope's Supremacy, whereupon the Question was put to every individual Student, *whether he would renounce the Pope's Supremacy?* which many of them did, and signed an Instrument, declaring their Assent; yet some rather chose to quit their Fellowships than comply: They saw the King making a Valuation of all College Estates, as well as Church Leases, and did strongly suspect he designed to seize on both, and demolish their Houses.

The King proceeding to visit the University by Commissioners, added a *Greek* Lecture to *Magdalen* College and *New College*, and to *All-Souls* another; as also a
Latin

Latin Lecture, giving Stipends to the Lecturers: In *Queen's* College and *Merton* he appointed *Greek* Lectures, and the rest of the small Colleges had one Lecturer assigned them, and the Scholars were commanded to attend those Lectures on Pain of losing their Commons every Day they were absent; but the Students being now represented to the King by the *Monks* and other Enemies to the University, as Men of immoral and dissolute Lives, the Bishops and great Men withdrew their Exhibitions, and the King endeavoured to regulate their Discipline by certain Ordinances he made for that purpose; and as the *Latin* Tongue began to grow into Disuse, his Majesty order'd *Latin* Sermons to be preach'd (which had been disus'd for some time) according to their ancient Statutes: After which the King restor'd the University their Charters, which he had kept in his Hands some Years, ratifying and confirming all their Privileges, and requiring all his Subjects to take notice, and observe them; and this he did on the Vice-chancellor or Commissaries entring into a Recognizance of a thousand Pounds, not to assume or claim any Privilege granted to the University by *Wolfsey's* Charter: This King also revok'd all Charters and Bulls granted to the University by the Popes of *Rome*; yet he ratified all the Rights and Privileges from them, accruing to the University, and estab-

blished them by Virtue of his Royal Authority, calling them the antient Rights of the University.

But notwithstanding this King was an Encourager of Learning, Mr. *Wood* observes, that the Universities did not flourish in the latter End of his Reign, which he ascribes to the Fall of Cardinal *Wolsey*, the great Patron of it, and to the Dissolution of the Monasteries, which, by their Contributions and Exhibitions, us'd to maintain a great many Students here; nor was the King's Bounty applied, as it ought, his Courtiers pocketing the very Stipends he had assign'd to the several Lecturers, both in *Oxford* and *Cambridge*.

Edw. VI. In the Reign of King *Edward VI.* Delegates were sent down to reform the University in Point of Religion, and abolish Popery; but my Author observes, the Commissioners procur'd much good to themselves by suppressing religious Houses, and advanced the Reformation but little by the Havock they made of the Church Lands, and some of the Colleges were once very much in Danger of being suppress'd by these Delegates.

Mary The Reign of *Edward VI.* being short, and Queen *Mary* succeeding, she oblig'd the University to become Roman Catholicks again;

again ; and to terrify the Disciples of the Reformation, those celebrated Reformers Archbishop *Cranmer*, and the Bishops *Ridley* and *Latimer*, were burnt for Heresy before *Baliol* College. She confirm'd the Statutes of the University, but the Purveyance for Victuals, which used to extend twenty Miles round the University, was now limited to five Miles by Parliament. Cardinal *Pool*, by Virtue of his Legatine Power, appointed certain Delegates to visit the University, with an Authority to receive into the Church again all such Apostates, as desired Absolution ; but they rejected all Persons, who would not renounce their Heresies, as they called Protestant Doctrines, and they publicly burnt all *English* Bibles, with the Commentaries upon them in the Market-place, fining or banishing those Persons in whose Possession they were found.

Upon the Resignation of *Mason* the Chancellor, Cardinal *Pool* was elected Chancellor, who provided the University with a new Set of Statutes, whereby all Persons well affected to the Reformation were excluded the University.

Queen *Elizabeth* succeeding her Sister *Elizabeth* *Mary*, for one Year kept Things pretty much in the State she found them ; but then reversed all that her Predecessor had done, delegating certain Persons to visit the Universities,

1558,

verfities, and eject all Persons that did not renounce the Popish Doctrines and Superstitions; whereupon feveral of the Heads and Fellows chofe to resign, rather than conform.

The following Year, the Queen remitted to the Univerfity the Payments of the firft Fruits and Tenths for ever: She alfo exempted them from the Subfides, Tenths and Fifteenths of all their Temporalties and Lay Fees.

Some few Years after, the Queen vifited the Univerfity in Perfon, and was prefent at their Difputations and Exercifes in the Schools one whole Week, during which time ſhe preferr'd feveral Men of great Merit and Figure in the learned World, and expreffed fo much Satisfaction in the Conduct of the Univerfity, that it brought over many of the Students, which were before inclined to Popery to embrace the Reformation.

Her Majeſty taking Leave of the Univerfity in a *Latin* Oration, gave them Thanks for that Duty and Affection they had expreffed towards her Perfon and Government, during her Refidence amongſt them, declaring, ſhe ſhould always be ready to protect and encourage this learned Body.

The Earl of *Leiceſter*, once a Student of this Univerfity, and at this time Chancellor, is ſaid to have been the Occaſion of her
Majeſty's

Majesty's favouring them with this Visit : During his Chancellorship, he chang'd almost the whole Government of the University, in some Things for the better, according to my Author ; but in many Things for the worse, as it was generally thought.

In the Year 1584, the same Chancellor, by the Queen's Direction, sent a Letter to the University, commanding them, that no Person should be admitted to a Degree without performing the suitable Exercises for the same, upon a Report made to her Majesty, that Degrees were taken here by the Method of Dispensations, without any Regard had to Learning or Merit ; wherefore he commanded them, both in his own and the Queen's Name, to see that all Persons should perform their Exercises for the same ; and that they should stay their proper time, before they presumed to take any Bachelor's Degree in Divinity, Law or Physick, or any other Faculty whatsoever, or sue for any Doctor's Degree without reading their Cursory Lectures, except the Sons of Kings and Noblemen, having a Voice in the upper House of Parliament ; nor should any Dispensations be granted for the doing of Exercises ; for by giving Bonds, and then forfeiting the Conditions thereof, they had suffer'd such infamous Blockheads to pass to their Degrees, as could never have been conceived

ceived to have had the least Part of an University Education.

The Earl of *Leicester* dying at his Seat at *Cornbury* in that memorable Year 1588, was succeeded in the Chancellorship of that University by Sir *Christopher Hatton*, Lord Chancellor of *England*, who endeavoured to reform, whatever his Predecessor had left undone, particularly he directed, that all Persons to be admitted to a Degree, should first give an account of their Faith: He restrained the Excess of Apparel among the Scholars, restor'd the preaching of Sermons on Sundays and Holidays during the Vacation, and required all Candidates for Degrees, and matriculated Persons, to subscribe the Articles of Religion: He reviv'd the Course of Disputations, inflicting Penalties on those who omitted the same; and had he liv'd longer, says my Author, he would have left nothing for his Successor to have amended. Lord *Buckhurst* succeeded *Hatton* in the Office of Chancellor of the University, who, with great Industry, endeavoured to correct what had escaped his Predecessor; and to this End invited her Majesty to *Oxford* again: She was met by the Vice-chancellor and Heads at the utmost Bounds of the University, who congratulated her Arrival in a *Latin* Speech, which she answered in the same Language; and being address'd in *Greek*, when she came to *Carfax*, she returned

urned a most obliging Answer in that Tongue.

While she remain'd at *Oxford*, she attended the Exercises of the Schools every Day, and was entertain'd by the Scholars in *Christ-Church* Hall every Evening with a Play acted by the Students.

Lord *Buckhurst* (adds Mr. *Wood*) did many good Offices to the University, and so modell'd and corrected their Discipline, that, during his Administration, Learning, Piety and good Manners, seemed to have taken up their Residence at *Oxford*.

King *James* in the Beginning of his Reign *James I.*
1602. authorised the two Universities to send two Members each to represent them in Parliament, and directed them to chuse such Men as were skilful in the Civil Law, for they had no Representatives in the House of Commons before.

In the Year 1609, the Differences were revived again between the University and the Town of *Oxford*, about keeping Watch and Ward; for tho' this had been acknowledged to be the sole Right of the University, yet the Bailiffs of *Oxford*, under Pretence of searching for Felons and Vagrants in the Night-time, still walk'd the Streets, which occasioned frequent Quarrels between the Gownsmen and Townsmen: Whereupon Complaint was made to the King and
S Council

Council of the Bailiffs, who were fined and imprisoned by the Chancellor, and the Cause being removed to the Courts above by *Habeas Corpus*, was remanded, and the Bailiffs were obliged to submit and acknowledge their Offence; but the Townsmen renewing their Pretensions to the Watch two Years afterwards; the Vice-chancellor thought fit to discommon them (that is) he forbid all Students and privileged Persons to deal with such Townsmen, as attempted to invade the Rights of the University, which soon obliged them to submit again. For by privileged Persons are not only meant Students, but all Tradesmen, who are matriculated and taken into the Protection of the University.

In this Reign the Students were much divided among themselves, some asserted strenuously the Rights of the Church, and others espoused the *Puritans*; among the former was *William Laud*, B. D. afterwards Archbishop of *Canterbury*, whom the *Puritans* accused of preaching up *Arminianism*, and even Popery in his Sermons; but he was acquitted of that Charge by the Vice-chancellor.

On the other hand, the *Puritans* were not satisfied with preaching up the Doctrines of absolute Decrees and Reprobation, and railing at the establish'd Church; but maintained it was lawful to resist, and even depose

pose such Princes and Governors as persecuted their Subjects on the Score of Religion.

Mr. *William Knight*, of *Broadgate Hall*, preaching on *Palm Sunday* at *St. Peter's* in the East upon these Words : *What doest thou here* *Elijah*? and discoursing on the Persecution the Prophet lay under, and the Means he had used to disintangle himself; he came at last to this Question, *Whether it was lawful for Subjects, when harrassed on the Score of Religion, to take up Arms against their Prince in their own Defence?* and being so hardy to hold the Affirmative, the Vice-chancellor, Dr. *Pearce*, order'd him to deliver his Notes, and discover those who put him upon preaching this extraordinary Doctrine, and who he had pre-acquainted with this Business before he came into the Pulpit.

Knight answer'd, as to the Doctrine, he follow'd the Opinion of *Paræus*, then Divinity Professor at *Heidelburgh*, who in his Comment on the 13th Chapter of the *Romans* has directly asserted the same thing; but his principal Authority, he said, was King *James*, who, as he understood, was going to send the *Rockellers* a Reinforcement against their own Prince. As to the other Question, he told the Vice-chancellor he had made no Body Privy to his Sermon, except Mr. *Herbert*, Vicar of *Radley* near *Abington*, and Mr. *Code* of the same House.

Upon this Examination, *Knight* and his two Abettors were committed, and immediately afterwards the Vice-chancellor wrote to Dr. *Laud*, then Bishop of St. *David's*, and gave him an Account of what had pass'd. *Laud* laid the Letter before the King; whereupon his Majesty ordered *Knight* and his Sermon to be brought up, who being examined before the Council Board, and returning the same Answer he did to the Vice-chancellor, he was sent to the *Gate-house*.

Then the King wrote to the Vice-chancellor, commending him for apprehending *Knight*, *Herbert*, and *Code*, and requiring him to discharge the two latter, till further Order: The Vice-chancellor was likewise commanded to assemble the Heads of Colleges and Halls, and put them in mind of the Direction sent thither some few Years since by his Majesty, that those who design'd to make Divinity their Profession, should chiefly apply themselves to the Studies of the Holy Scriptures, of the Councils, Fathers and ancient Schoolmen; but as for the Moderns, whether *Jesuits* or *Puritans*, they should wholly decline reading their Works.

And to prevent young Students being debauch'd with the Doctrines of *Paræus*, the King and Council ordered his Comment to be burnt; but before this was done, this Book, and other of like Principles, were censured by all the Bishops then in *London*:
These

These Prelates condemned the Proposition made by *Knight*, as plainly seditious, contrary to the Holy Scriptures, the Sense of the antient Fathers, and utterly repugnant to the Doctrine and Constitution of the Church of *England*.

By an Order of Council the Booksellers Shops were search'd for the said Comments of *Paræus*, which were publicly burnt at *Oxford*, *Cambridge* and *London*. *Oxford* afterwards made Extracts from *Paræus*, his Assertions, on the Question above-mentioned, which were read at the publick Convocation, and censured by the Heads, Doctors and Masters in manner following.

P A R Æ U S's First PROPOSITION.

It is lawful for Bishops and Pastors, with the Consent of the Church, to deliver wicked and unjust Magistrates to *Satan*, and that they ought to proceed thus far, in case the Magistrates prove contumacious.

The C E N S U R E.

This Proposition is erroneous, impious and subversive of Civil Government.

The Second PROPOSITION.

Subjects, not private ones, but placed in subordinate Magistracy, may lawfully make use of Force, and defend themselves, the Commonwealth, and the true Religion, in
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The P R E S E N T S T A T E

the Field against the chief Magistrate, within the Cases and Conditions following. *First*, when the chief Magistrate turns Tyrant. 2. When he forces them, or any of their Fellow Subjects, upon Blasphemy or manifest Idolatry. 3. When any heavy Pressure is laid on them by the Government. 4. When Resistance is the only Expedient to secure them their Lives, their Fortunes, and Liberty of Conscience; but then 5. They are to take care not to make Religion and Justice a Colour for Interest and Ambition; and 6. They must always manage within the Rules of Moderation and Temper, and do nothing unwarrantable by Law.

The C E N S U R E.

This Proposition is false and seditious, and the Conditions annex'd, are only thrown in for a Varnish to Rebellion, and to give an Handle for an Insurrection to be carried on with a better Grace.

The Third P R O P O S I T I O N.

Subjects altogether private, and who have no Share in the Magistracy, in case they are persecuted by those in the Administration, that is, by those in Authority under the Government, such private Subjects, without a lawful Call, have no Authority to make use of the Sword to attack a Tyrant, either by Way of Prevention, or to defend

defend themselves from actual Oppression or Outrage, or to revenge themselves for what they have suffer'd already.

The C E N S U R E.

This Assertion goes upon a false Supposition, and is scandalously insidious and treasonable.

The Fourth P R O P O S I T I O N.

When a Tyrant manages like a Highwayman, and commits an open Rape, as it were, upon Privilege and Property: In this Case, Subjects, tho' under the most private Capacity, when they are in no Condition of applying to the subordinate Magistracy, nor any Possibility of avoiding the Danger, may lawfully make use of Force, defend themselves and their Friends against the Insults of the Tyrant, and treat him in the Character of one that goes upon the Road.

The C E N S U R E.

This Proposition is false, dangerous and wicked.

To prevent the spreading of such dangerous Principles for the future, the following Provision and Decree was pass'd in the Convocation.

I. That by the Doctrine of the Holy Scriptures it is in no Case lawful for Subjects

jects to make use of Force against their Prince, nor to appear offensively or defensively in the Field against the King; either upon the Score of Religion, or any other Account whatsoever.

2. That all the Doctors and Masters, the Bachelors of Law and Physick in the University of *Oxon*, shall subscribe the Censure and Decree above-mentioned.

3. That all Persons, promoted to any Degree, shall subscribe these Censures; and at the same time take their Corporal Oath, that they do not only at present condemn and detest the Propositions above-mention'd; but that they shall always continue of the same Opinion.

The Tenor of the OATH.

TU jurabis te ex animo & bona fide consentire decreto Convocationis habitæ Die Martis (viz.) vicesimo quinto Die Junij, 1622, sup. quibusdam Propositionibus falsis, seditiosis, impijs, & ibidem damnitis; & quod nullam predictarum conclusionum earumve Sententiam docebis, defendes vel tenebis publice aut occulte, neque aliquem hujusmodi Doctorem vel Defensorem ope consilio vel favore juvabis; sed quantum in te est impedies ita te Deus adjuvet tactis sacro sanctis Dei Evangelijs.

And

And that *Calvin's* Doctrines might not revive here: An Order was made at the same Convocation, that the King's Directions above-mentioned for the regulating their Studies, should be hung up in the College Chapels, and other publick Places. And from this time *Calvin's* Authority began to decline in the University: He was not now consulted, as their Oracle, nor taken upon Content as formerly. And as *Calvin's* Authority sunk, the Doctrines of the Church of *England* emerg'd, and the Fathers recovered a just Esteem.

Mr. *Knight* was detained in Prison two Years; but obtained his Liberty at length on the Intercession of the Earl of *Oxford*, who made him his Chaplain; but however the Doctrine of Resistance was discouraged in this University; that of Predestination seems to have been generally acquiesced in at this time; for Mr. *Gabriel Bridges* was censured for questioning it, and enjoyn'd to make a Recantation, and to testify he had alter'd his Opinion: He was ordered, when he came to take his Bachelor of Divinity's Degree to maintain these Propositions.

That God's Decree of Predestination is not conditional.

That Grace sufficient for Salvation is not given to all Men.

And indeed this was the Opinion of King *James* himself, who in most Points of Doc-

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trine appears to have been a perfect *Calvinist*. This Prince, dying *Anno* 1625, was succeeded by his Son *Charles I.* who was a great Patron of this University, and studious of the Welfare of it. There happening a Dispute about the Election of Proctors in the Year 1628, and the Matter being re-ferr'd to his Majesty; the King, by the Advice of Bishop *Laud*, directed, that the Colleges should have the Office of Proctors by Turns, having Regard to the Largeness of each College, and the Number of Students; that *Christ-Church* should have six Turns, *Magdalen* five, *New College* four; and so the rest in Proportion. The same Year, the King visited the University, and was received with the same Honours as his Predecessors had been. Upon the Death of their Chancellor, the Earl of *Pembroke*, *Anno* 1630, the University elected Dr. *Laud*, then Bishop of *London*, to succeed him, who immediately applied himself to regulate what he found amiss: He procured a Prebendary of *Christ-Church* to be annex'd to the *Hebrew* Lecture, observing that Tongue to be much neglected: He insisted on the Scholars wearing their proper Habits, and prohibited the accumulating Degrees, or the taking several Degrees at once, as had been too much practised. However, it appears, that some celebrated Preachers began to charge Bishop *Laud*, and many of his Brethren

thren with *Arminianism*, and being popishly affected ; and when the Vice-chancellor demanded a Copy of their Sermons, they refused to deliver them, which Matter being referr'd to the King, his Majesty ordered, that whenever the Vice-chancellor should demand a Copy of the Preacher's Sermon, he should deliver him a true Copy upon Oath ; and that if the Vice-chancellor should commit a University Man, he should not disobey him, but go to Prison.

Archbishop *Laud* the Chancellor, in the Year 1635, gave great Numbers of Books to the University in most Languages : He also procured a very beneficial Charter for the University, explaining and confirming their antient Privileges, and adding several others : And their Statutes being corrected and enlarg'd *Anno* 1636, were confirm'd by the King and the Archbishop ; and the Vice-chancellor, Heads of Colleges and Proctors, engaged in the Name of the University to observe them ; and the Statute for the Examination of Candidates for Degrees was more particularly ordered to be put in Execution : Such, as commenced Bachelors, were examined in Grammar, Rhetorick, Logick, Moral Philosophy and Geometry ; but the Candidates for the Master's Degree, in Natural Philosophy, Metaphysics, Astronomy, Opticks, Physicks and Geography, and both in Geometry and the *Greek* Tongue,

whose Answers were to be given in the *Latin* Tongue; and unless they could give a tolerable Account of the said several Arts, they were not to be admitted to the said Degrees. These Examinations were to be made in the Presence of the Vice-chancellor and Proctors, and being duly perform'd, rais'd the Esteem of the University Discipline much in the Nation, and Foreign Parts.

But the Chancellor, who was the chief Protector of the Universities, and the greatest Encourager of Learning in those Times, happening to fall under the Displeasure of the Parliament in the Year 1639, their Privileges were invaded on every Side, and particularly by the Townsmen, who now insulted the Scholars, and disown'd the Authority of the Magistrates of the University, and preferring false and scandalous Petitions to the Parliament, were too much encourag'd in their tumultuous Behaviour: However, the University observing all Ecclesiastical Government to be struck at, as well as the Privileges of the University, had the Courage to petition the Parliament to support the establish'd Church; but the Houses refused to receive it: And now the Archbishop being prosecuted for his Loyalty to his Prince by the House of Commons, thought proper to resign his Office of Chancellor, in which he was succeeded by the Earl of *Pembroke*,
his

his Competitor in the last Election, without proceeding to a new Choice.

Upon the Petition of some *Puritans* to the Parliament soon after, it was ordered, that no Scholar should be obliged to sign such of the Articles of the Church of *England*, as they could not digest; and that they should pay no Reverence to the Altars in their Chapels, by bowing or offering Money at them.

The Parliament proceeding to collect and levy Money on the Subject to maintain their Forces against the King in the Year 1642. This University made his Majesty a Present of their Plate and Money, which the two Houses took great Pains to prevent; but it arrived however safe at *York*; tho' that sent by the other University had the Misfortune to be intercepted by the Enemy.

The Gownsmen at *Oxford* proceeded to form a Regiment of Scholars for their Defence, and were join'd by Sir *John Byron* with two hundred of the King's Horse; but being deserted by the Townsmen, who had promised to join them, they dispersed, and a Detachment from the Parliament Army, commanded by the Lord *Fiennes*, march'd into the City.

However in the Year 1643, the Royalists possess'd themselves of *Oxford*, fortified the Avenues, and placed a strong Garrison in it; and a Regiment was again form'd out of
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the Scholars, which were of great Service to the Royal Cause; whereupon the Earl of *Pembroke*, who had betrayed the Interests of the University, was displaced by the King, and the Earl of *Hartford* made Chancellor in his Stead.

The King's Affairs declining, *Oxford* was surrendered to the Forces of the Parliament upon honourable Terms in the Year 1646, and the next Year (1647) Commissioners were appointed for the Visitation of the University; among whom were Sir *Nathaniel Brent*, *William Prinne*, and twenty more.

The University resolving not to acknowledge these Persons to be lawful Visitors; the Proctors, in the Name of the rest, appear'd before them on the 8th of *October*, with a Protest of the following Tenour, viz.

“ Whereas the Vice-chancellor and Proc-
 “ tors (the Magistrates and publick Officers
 “ of the University) have been commanded
 “ by several Citations to appear before the
 “ said Commissioners, sitting together in
 “ *Merton* College; and whereas they have
 “ communicated this to him and us (the
 “ Delegates of the University) we, the said
 “ Delegates, together with the Vice-chan-
 “ cellor and Proctors, duly weighing the
 “ Premisses, and deliberating thereon, in
 “ the Name of all the Students (paying all
 “ manner of Reverence to both Honour-
 “ able

“ able Houses of Parliament, and due Re-
“ spect to every Person thereof, and to the
“ Offices they execute) do with Humility
“ interpose our Opinion, and say, that we
“ can acknowledge no other Visitor than
“ the King himself, or him unto whom he
“ has immediately delegated and granted
“ his Power ; for as much as this Power of
“ visiting, the University is to be acknow-
“ ledged among the undoubted Rights of the
“ Crown (which we are bound to defend,
“ as well on account of several Obligations
“ in Law, as on account of our late Pro-
“ testation) and also among the chief Pri-
“ vileges of the University (which we are
“ no less obliged by several Statutes and
“ Oaths to maintain) and that the same
“ belongs to the King, and no one else:
“ And therefore without manifest Danger
“ of various and manifold Perjury, we think
“ we cannot submit to this Visitation, nor
“ can we acknowledge the Persons sent by
“ both Houses of Parliament to be lawful
“ Visitors.”

The same Day an Order was affix'd to
the School-Gate, depriving Dr. *Fell* of the
Office of Vice-chancellor ; notwithstanding
which, the Doctor still continued to act as
such, called a Congregation of Regent Mas-
ters, and began the Term, according to
Custom : He also refused to deliver up the
Statute Books, Keys, Seals and Writings be-
longing

longing to the University. which had been demanded of him ; whereupon Dr. *Fell*, the Vice-chancellor, was commanded to attend a Committee of Lords at *London*, and Dr. *Potter*, President of *Trinity* College, supplying the Absence of *Fell*, held a Convocation, wherein the Transactions of the University Delegates, and the answer given on the 8th in the Name of the University, and presented by the Proctors to the Visitors, were approv'd and ratified.

Dr. *Fell* being brought before a Committee of Lords at *Whitehall* on the 15th of *November*, and examined, whether a Paper shewn him was the Answer of himself and the Canons of *Christ-Church*, who had subscribed it, said, he could not give a positive Answer, unless the Canons were present ; whereupon the Canons appeared and owned their Hands ; and that it was their Answer, but Dr. *Fell* received Abundance of opprobrious Language from the Earl of *Pembroke*, one of the Members of the Committee.

Dr. *Potter* and the Proctors also were sent for to *London* to answer their Contempts ; and an Ordinance of Parliament was made, that all Persons, who had opposed the Authority of the Visitors, and kept Possession of their Offices, should be taken into Custody ; and all the Heads of Colleges were turn'd out by Force, and the Canons of *Christ-Church* ; and all others, who refused to

to submit to the Usurpation, were depriv'd:
The Earl of *Pembroke* was directed to take Possession of the Chancellor's Office, and *Edward Reynolds*, M. A. was appointed Vice-chancellor, and put into Possession of Dr. *Fell's* Lodgings.

The noble Historian, speaking of this Visitation, says, " That the Earl of *Pembroke*, out of the extream Weakness of his
" Understanding, and the miserable Compliance of his Nature, suffer'd himself to
" be made a Property, in joyning with
" *Brent*, *Prynne*, and some Committee Men,
" and Presbyterian Ministers, as Commissioners for the Parliament, to reform the
" Discipline and erroneous Doctrine of that
" famous University, by the Rule of the
" Covenant; which was the Standard of
" all Mens Learning and Ability to govern :
" All Persons of that Quality being requir'd
" to subscribe that Test, which the whole
" Body of the University was so far from
" submitting to, that they met in their Convocation, and, to their eternal Renown
" (being at the same time under a strong
" and strict Garrison, put over them by the
" Parliament, the King in Prison, and all
" their Hopes desperate) pass'd a publick
" Act and Declaration against the Covenant,
" with such invincible Arguments of the
" Illegality, Wickedness and Perjury contained in it, that no Man of the contrary
" Opinion,

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" with such invincible Arguments of the
" Illegality, Wickedness and Perjury con-
" tained in it, that no Man of the contrary
U " Opinion,

“ Opinion, nor the Assembly of the Divines
 “ (which then sat at *Westminster*, forming
 “ a new Catechism and Scheme of Religion)
 “ ever ventured to make any Answer to;
 “ nor is it indeed to be answer’d, but must
 “ remain to the World’s End, as a Mo-
 “ nument of the Learning, Courage and
 “ Loyalty of that excellent Place, against
 “ the highest Malice and Tyranny that was
 “ ever exercised in or over any Nation;
 “ and which those famous Commissioners
 “ only answered, by expelling all those
 “ who refused to submit to their Jurisdic-
 “ tion, or to take the Covenant, which
 “ was, upon the Matter, the whole Uni-
 “ versity, scarce one Governor and Master
 “ of College or Hall, and an incredible
 “ small Number of Fellows and Scholars
 “ submitting to either. Whereupon that
 “ Desolation being made, they placed in
 “ their Rooms the most notorious, factious
 “ *Presbyterians* in the Government of the
 “ several Colleges or Halls; and such other
 “ of the same Leaven in the Fellowships
 “ and Scholars Places, of those whom they
 “ had expell’d, without any Regard to the
 “ Statutes of the several Founders, and the
 “ Incapacities of the Persons that were put
 “ in: The Omnipotence of an Ordinance
 “ of Parliament confirm’d all that was this
 “ Way done; and there was no farther
 “ contending against it.”

It

It might reasonably be concluded, that this wild and barbarous Depopulation would even extirpate all that Learning, Religion and Loyalty, which had so eminently flourished there; and that the succeeding ill Husbandry, and unskilful Cultivation, would have made it fruitful only in Ignorance, Profanation, Atheism and Rebellion; but by God's wonderful Blessing, the Goodness and Richness of that Soil could not be made barren by all that Stupidity and Ignorance. It choak'd the Weeds, and would not suffer the poysonous Seeds, which were sown with Industry enough to spring up; but after several tyrannical Governments, mutually succeeding each other, and with the same Malice and Perverseness endeavoured to extinguish all good Literature and Allegiance: It yielded a Harvest of extraordinary good and sound Knowledge in all Parts of Learning; and many, who were wickedly introduced, applied themselves to the Study of good Learning, and the Practise of Virtue; and had an Inclination to that Duty and Obedience they had never been taught; so that when it pleased God to bring King *Charles II.* back to his Throne, he found that University (not to undervalue the other, which had nobly likewise rejected the ill Infusions, which had been industriously pour'd into it) abounding in excellent Learning, and devoted to Duty and

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Obedience,

Obedience, little inferior to what it was before its Desolation, which is a lively Instance of God's Mercy and Purpose, for ever to provide for his Church, that the Gates of Hell shall never prevail against it, which were never open'd wider, nor with more Malice than in that Time.

The Royalists being ejected, and the University replenish'd with *Presbyterians* and *Republicans*, as related above, an Act was held in the Year 1649, when General *Fairfax*, Lieutenant General *Cromwell*, and several other Officers of the Parliament Army, coming to *Oxford*, were complimented with Degrees; *Robert Scrope*, Colonel of a Regiment of Horse, was admitted to the Degree of a Bachelor of Arts; *Unton Croke*, to a Bachelor of Law; Sir *Hardress Waller*, to a Master of Arts; *Thomas Harrison*, Major General, Colonel *Ingoldsbys*, Governor of the Garrison of this City, *John Hewson*, a Colonel of Foot, Colonel *William Gough*, *John Okey*, a Colonel of Dragoons, and *George Joyce*, a Cornet, to the same Degree. *Thomas Lord Fairfax*, Generalissimo, and *Oliver Cromwell*, Lieutenant General, were created Doctors of Civil Law.

Anno
1651.

The Convocation unanimously chose *Cromwell* their Chancellor: He was then at *Edinburgh* in *Scotland*, and being acquainted with what the Convocation of this University had done by certain Doctors and Masters

ters sent to him on purpose, he kindly accepted their Election, and promised forthwith to be a Friend to the University, by a Letter sent back by them, *Feb. 4* following, in Words to this Effect; “ If these (*viz.*)
“ some Arguments, which he had first
“ made use of to avoid the Office) prevail
“ not, and that I must continue in this
“ Honour, till I can personally serve you,
“ you shall not want my Prayers; that that
“ Seed and Stock of Piety and Learning
“ (so marvellously springing up among you)
“ may be useful to that great and glorious
“ Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, of
“ the Approach of which, so plentiful an
“ Effusion of the Spirit upon those hopeful
“ Plants, is one of the best Presages. And
“ in all other Things I shall, by the di-
“ vine Assistance, improve my poor Abili-
“ ties and Interests, in manifesting myself
“ to be to the University, and to yourselves,
“ &c.” which Letter being read in the
Convocation, the Academians made the
Place resound with their joyful Acclama-
tions.

In the same Year, the University appeared so modell’d and devoted to the Interest of the Parliament, that they raised an hundred and twenty Horse at their own Charge, and promised to raise a Regiment of Foot.

Cromwell held the Chancellorship till the Year 1657, when he resign’d it in Favour
of

of his Son *Richard*, who held it till the Restoration. *Cromwell* ordered a Revenue of one hundred Pounds *per Annum* to be settled on the Divinity Reader.

The Marquess of *Hertford* was restored to the Chancellorship at the Restoration; but dying soon after, Sir *Edward Hyde*, Lord Chancellor of *England*, was elected into that Office; and Commissioners being sent down to visit the University, we find the following Heads of Colleges restored, made or confirm'd (*viz.*)

Dr. *Gilbert Sheldon*, Rector of *Lincoln* College; Dr. *John Oliver*, President of *Magdalen* College; Dr. *Thomas Yate*, Principal of *Brazen-Nose* College; Dr. *Robert Newlin*, President of *Corpus Christi* College; Dr. *Hannibal Potter*, President of *Trinity* College; Dr. *Richard Bayly*, President of *St. John's* College; Dr. *Francis Mancel*, Principal of *Jesus* College; Dr. *Henry Wightwick*, Master of *Pembroke* College; who had been ejected in 1648, or thereabouts, were now restored to their Headships.

Dr. *Thomas Walker*, Master of *University* College; Dr. *George Morley*, Dean of *Christ Church* College; Dr. *Gilbert Ironside*, Warden of *Wadham* College; Dr. *Timothy Baldwin*, Principal of *Hart Hall*; Dr. *Martin Lluellin*,

Lluellin, Principal of *St. Mary's Hall*; *Dr. John Mapletof*, Principal of *Glocester Hall*, were Royalists, preferr'd for their Sufferings and Worth to those Headships.

Dr. Thomas Savage, Master of *Baliol College*; *Dr. Edward Reynolds*, Warden of *Merton College*, but removed from *Christ-Church* to make room for *Dr. Morley*; *Dr. John Conant*, Rector of *Exeter College*; *Dr. Robert Say*, Provost of *Oriel College*; *Dr. Thomas Barlow*, Provost of *Queen's College*; *Dr. Michael Woodward*, Warden of *New College*; *Dr. Giles Sweet*, L.L.D. Principal of *Alban Hall*; *Dr. Thomas Tully*, Principal of *Edmund Hall*; *Dr. Christopher Rogers*, Principal of *New-Inn Hall*; *Dr. Henry Wilkinson*, Principal of *Magdalen Hall*; who renouncing their former Principles, and conforming to the Government in Church and State, were continued in their Headships.

The Parliament meeting at *Oxford*, on account of the Plague, on the 9th of *October*, 1665; the Commons,

Resolv'd,

That the Thanks of this House be returned to the Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of *Oxon*, for their remarkable Loyalty to his Majesty's Father, of
happy

Charles II.
1665.

happy Memory, in the late Rebellion, especially for that extraordinary Instance of their Duty in making a bold Opposition to the rebellious Visitors, and refusing to submit to their League and Covenant: And lastly, for the illustrious Performance they printed, entituled, *The Judgment of the University*; in which they have learnedly maintained the Justice of the King's Cause.

Oxon.
1665.

At this Parliament an Act pass'd, prohibiting Fanatick Teachers to come within five Miles of a Corporation, and another for the Attainder of several *Republicans*, who had entered themselves in the *Dutch* Service, and were in Arms against their Country; if they did not render themselves by a certain Day.

1666.

On the 26th of *September*, 1666, *John Rathbone*, a Colonel in the Parliament Army in the grand Rebellion, and seven others, who had been Officers and Soldiers in the same Troops, were convicted of High-Treason at the *Old Bailey* in *London*, for conspiring to surprize the Tower, murder General *Monk* (then Duke of *Albemarle*) attack the King's Guards, and fire the City, which was to have been executed on the third of *September*, a Day propitious to *Cromwell* and the Sectaries; and



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THE PRESIDENT

By the President of the United States
in Executive Order
No. 11631
January 17, 1972

